



SPRING 2014

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

In Search of Success:
Alumnae Entrepreneurs
40 Years and Counting...
Quandra Prettyman on Teaching
Barnard's Symposium in Shanghai
Shopping to Save the Planet
Women's Rights in Africa

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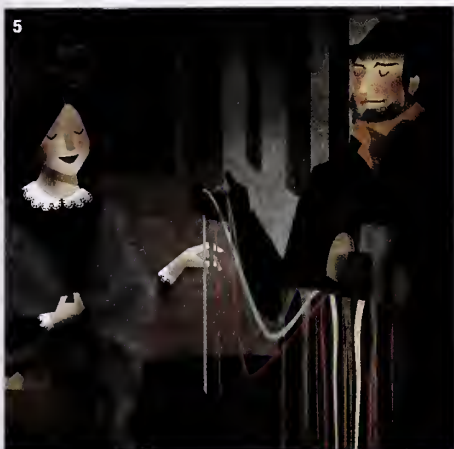
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BARNARD MAGAZINE

SPRING 2014



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Kudos

I just had a wonderful moment reading *Barnard Magazine* on the subway. The woman sitting next to me saw my magazine and asked if I went to Barnard, because she had just graduated in May, and a minute later, the woman sitting next to her leaned over and said that she too went to Barnard and graduated in 1974! We shared a few stories about our respective times at Barnard before getting off at the next stop. We decided that our encounter sounded like something in the Metropolitan Diary [of *The New York Times*]-or *Barnard Magazine*.
—Hannah Sholl '99

I got *Barnard Magazine* and did not look at it immediately as I usually do. Instead, I let it drift around the apartment. I found that every time I came upon it, I went Wow, *what is this totally modern, cool magazine?* The cover is stunning. I love the size. The articles are of course up to their usual high level of interest and proper prose. Such a pleasure!
—Pat Harrigan Nadosy '68

More Than One

Yes, Millicent McIntosh, Barnard's remarkable president from 1946–1962, was a “wonder woman...” But I must disagree strongly with the special characterization of Mrs. Mac as “Barnard's *first* wonder woman.” As a '49 graduate who entered Barnard when Virginia Gildersleeve was dean and finished my last two years under her successor, I consider myself lucky to have received my college education under two such wonder women, but Gildersleeve surely has earned the accolade of “first.” These two remarkable women represented two different eras, both critical to Barnard's dedicated education of women for the future. At a time when other leading women's colleges were headed by men...Gildersleeve stood out for her many pioneering roles. Most famously, of course, she was the only woman appointed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to the United Nations Conference on International Organization, which helped establish the United Nations in 1945. ...McIntosh proved it is possible and enjoyable to “have it all,” husband, family, and a career (but not necessarily at the same moment!). Decades earlier Gildersleeve championed that women, educated at the highest levels, are qualified to be at the highest levels of any profession.
—Barrie Tait Collins '49

CORRECTION

The pediatric nurse-practitioner quoted in “Health Care Careers” (Winter 2014), was accidentally misidentified on page 75. She is Ellen Shaw '89, not Ellen Simons Shaw '62. We regret the error.

BARNARD

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FAST-FORWARD IN CHINA

I first went to China in 1994, 16 years after Deng Xiaoping quietly unfurled a stream of quasi-capitalist experiments that would eventually transform his vast and complicated country into an economic superpower. China in 1994 had a per capita income of \$469, and over 650 million of its citizens survived on less than \$1.25 a day.

Looking down from the eighth floor of my hotel in Shanghai, I was the highest-perched person in the city. Below me was a sea of bicycles, each occupied by two or three people wrapped in tarps against the rain, and covered by gray-hued umbrellas. When I raced, late to a meeting on the Bund, I felt I was the tallest person in town, and certainly the only one sporting a bright red suit. In Beijing, I drove for hours behind a truck filled with pigs, and wandered through tiny streets of even smaller homes, decorated only by the occasional calendar and piles of hockey pucks that I later learned were coal.

This March, a blink of an eye and 20 years later, I landed in Shanghai again, accompanied by my teenage daughter, who, like millions of ambitious American kids, already has five years of Mandarin language instruction under her belt. We were whisked to the 45-story Ritz Carlton, the site of Barnard's next-day Global Symposium, a tower that glitters but already pales in comparison to the 100- and even 125-story architectural baubles storming into the city and surrounding towns—rice fields, all, during my first visit. Gross domestic product in China is now \$9.2 trillion, the result of two decades of annual growth rates of over 10 percent. Per capita income is now slightly under \$7,000 and the number of families subsisting on less than \$1.25 a day has plummeted to just under 100 million—a huge number still, of course, but one that nevertheless represents the greatest reduction of poverty anywhere in the world. China accounted for nearly 10 percent of the world's richest people in 2014, including 10 women.

Such growth, of course, has come at a price. Air pollution in the coastal cities is shockingly bad, filling your eyes and throat with an acrid sense, and blocking the sun for days and weeks on end. Once-fertile fields and rivers have become toxic, perhaps irreparably so, and the country remains firmly under the control of a central governing party that is quick to quash dissent and unapologetic about doing so.

Despite these flaws and failures, China has undeniably become one of the world's great powers and a model, perhaps, or warning, of how globalization is likely to proceed in the 21st century. As we heard in March from the 10 extraordinary women who spoke at our sixth annual Global Symposium, Women Changing China, the country is taking off: art is being made; media empires forged from nothing; capital markets rising to channel and support billions of dollars in annual transactions; and hundreds of millions of women, only recently sprung from poverty, are starting to make their marks on the country and the world. To walk around Shanghai today is to glimpse urbanization and growth at a pace that the world has almost never before witnessed. Over the past two decades, the city has grown faster than any other in the world, adding office towers and residential blocks and entire industrial areas built from scratch. There are 12 Gucci stores in the downtown area and four enormous Louis Vuittons. In 1994, I felt guilty and incomparably wealthy by Chinese standards; now I shudder at the prices screaming out from gleaming, glamorous malls. But the same women who are shopping in these malls, and the same women who spoke so passionately about China's growth and progress, still fear too frequently the iron grip at China's core; they fear the air their families breathe and the food they eat. They worry about both the long-term effects of China's notorious one-child policy—a generation of men with no hope of finding wives and a generation of children spoiled by the solitary affections of their parents and grandparents—and the seismic effects of loosening it.

China today is a dizzying place, full of promise, full of energy, bursting at the bounds of its own ambition. In 1994, when I wrote one of my first papers on the country's then-evolving development strategy, I began with a quote from Napoleon Bonaparte. "Let China sleep," he wrote almost 200 years ago, "for when it wakes it will shake the world." China isn't sleeping any longer. And the astonishing force of its growth is indeed shaking, and shaping, our world. No one can tell if the next decades of its transformation will be smooth or rocky—whether the country will succeed in tackling its issues through a conscious strategy of centralization, or whether power will eventually devolve and distribute itself more evenly. But I am glad that Barnard has a growing window into this crucial part of the world, and thankful for the students and alumnae and supporters and friends who have enabled us to witness this extraordinary revolution.





BARNARD'S 125TH: SHARE THE LOVE

You are part of the story of Barnard. Whenever you were here, whatever you saw, felt, learned, and experienced, we'd love to know. In preparation for our 125th anniversary celebration, please share your memories in words, photos, and videos. It wouldn't be Barnard without you.

Visit barnard.edu/125 or write to us at Vagelos Alumnae Center, 3009 Broadway, NY, NY 10027 to join the celebration.

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WHAT'S INSIDE

The condition of the economy has no doubt spurred many entrepreneurial ventures, as both young and old struggle to find new places in the working world. For some, starting a business is not a last-ditch effort, but a means to independence, creativity, and ultimately, success.

The entrepreneurs featured in this issue have established their own businesses through sometimes circuitous routes. All speak of their Barnard years as contributing to their confidence and expertise.

Quandra Prettyman joined the English department in 1970, and expanded the study of African American literature throughout her years at the College. Be sure to read Professor Monica Miller's interview with this engaging and innovative instructor whose career spanned a period of great change on campus.

Barnard's Global Symposium series began in Beijing in 2008. In March, the symposium returned to China via Shanghai, with two panelists from the first symposium. Their comments about what has changed in China, and what has not, make absorbing reading, as does President Spar's essay on the event.

Karen Fairbanks both teaches architecture and practices her profession. Her firm recently earned plaudits for its design of the Glen Oaks Public Library in Queens.

Events on campus continue to focus on thought-provoking ideas. A New York University professor explored the cross-cultural effects immigrant Jewish peddlers brought to their new homes. Two programs spotlighting Barnard alumnae were highlights of this year's Athena Film Festival. And, a panel of experts considered the question, "Can consumption save the world?"

After a bitter winter in the Northeast and elsewhere, we here on campus were cheered by our campus landmark—the blooming magnolia tree—an uplifting sight that heralds the arrival of spring and, hard on its heels, Reunion. Join us!

-The Editor



SELLING GOODS, SHARING CULTURE

HISTORIAN HASIA DINER EXPLAINS HOW JEWISH PEDDLERS MADE INROADS IN THE NEW WORLDS TO WHICH THEY MIGRATED

The peddler, similar to a wheelwright, currier, or carter, pursued a trade now mostly relegated to history. But as guest lecturer Hasia Diner, the Steinberg Professor of American Jewish History and director of the Goldstein-Goren Center for American Jewish History at New York University, explained at a recent talk in Barnard Hall, the “ordinary, unsung, and usually anonymous” foot soldiers who sold their wares door-to-door were often Jewish immigrants who became catalysts for change in Western Europe, the British Isles, Africa, the Antipodes, and the Americas. Drawing on her study of diaries, first-person accounts, and letters, Diner explained the curious position the Jewish immigrant peddlers had in their new worlds and how their profession shaped society and the way we shopped.

The focus on the peddler was a deliberate one for the Barnard Forum on Migration, helmed by Professor Jose C. Moya of the history department. “The forum approaches the concept of migration holistically, as a crucial component in the historical development of our hemisphere, country, city, and even neighborhoods, that continues to this day,” explained Moya. “And because the Jewish diaspora has historical significance both globally and in New York, it’s a theme we regularly explore.”

Arriving in a new location, a Jewish immigrant would rely on relatives or friends from his country of origin for credit for

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ATHENA FILM FESTIVAL SHOWCASES BARNARD WOMEN

ALUMNAE HIGHLIGHT A PANEL DISCUSSION AND BIOGRAPHICAL FILM

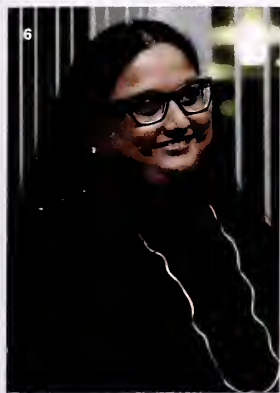
In addition to screening an array of features, documentaries, and shorts about women and leadership, the fourth annual Athena Film Festival included two special events that focused on Barnard alumnae. The first was the panel *Barnard in the Biz*, moderated by Dean Avis Hinkson '84. It featured a current student and two alumnae, all of whom work in the entertainment industry. Each woman represented a different aspect of the business. Naomi Foner '66 is an Academy Award-nominated screenwriter who recently added the title "director" to her résumé. She is also the mother of internationally renowned actors Jake and Maggie Gyllenhaal. Nancy Gates '89 marks her 18th year as an agent at United Talent Agency, with a client list that includes Patrick Dempsey, Elizabeth Hurley, Liv Tyler, Lake Bell, Michael J. Fox, Minnie Driver, and Brooke Shields. After acting

professionally in her hometown of St. Louis, Ariane Rinehart '15 made her television debut last fall as Liesl in NBC's live telecast of *The Sound of Music*.

The three shared stories of resilience, perseverance, and determination. Foner described the making of *Running on Empty*, her 1988 film about an activist couple on the run, for which she received a Golden Globe Award for best original screenplay. After she submitted her script, the studio requested a rewrite inconsistent with her vision for the film. "It was directly contrary to everything I was trying to say," Foner explained. "It was antithetical to why I wrote the film. It was the first time I said 'no,' and I was fired. I was a little heartbroken because this was a script that I cared enormously about, with a subject I cared enormously about, and really wanted to see happen."



(Read from left) 1 Ariane Rinehart and Avis Hinkson 2 Grace Lee Boggs 3 Naomi Foner 4 Nancy Gates 5 Deborah Spar, president, Barnard; Regina K. Scully, CEO and founder, Artemis Rising Foundation and founding sponsor of the film festival; and Debra Martin Chase, president, Martin Chase Productions



6 Jyoti Menon '01 7 Audience at Barnard in the Biz panel 8 AFF cofounders Melissa Silverstein of Women and Hollywood and Kathryn Kolbert, Constance Hess Williams director of the Athena Center for Leadership Studies

Months later she received a call to meet with Sidney Lumet, who had a deal with the studio that enabled him to read all scripts that had been submitted. He also had the go-ahead to make several pictures exactly as he envisioned them, as long as he stayed within budget. “We made the movie,” said Foner. “About a year and a half later...I met the executive who had fired me in a shoe store. He had just been fired and I had just been nominated for an Academy Award. I realized it’s extremely important to follow your creative and personal instinct.”

Rinehart said being a young actress requires carefully balancing optimism with realism. It is important to have a good support system and people who believe in you. “It’s about trying not to be too optimistic and trying not to be too hard on myself,” she said. “I’m so happy that I’m at Barnard seeing a lot of intelligent women going out into the industry making intelligent choices.” Being a full-time student keeps her engaged in intellectual pursuits, so that the highs and lows of acting don’t become all consuming.

Gates made the point that women have to become better at supporting one another. “[Men] are good at advocating for themselves,” Gates said. “They’re good at networking among themselves in an organic way. Women, I’d like to see that more.

“I don’t have the answer,” she added. “To be honest with you, at the end of the day I’d rather go home to see my kid and my husband than go to a Lakers or a Knicks game.”

Foner also discussed what she considers the power of film and television to change people’s perspectives. “If you can tell someone a story about a particular, very specific human being and you can make somebody feel something about that human being and the situation they’re in, [the audience] will inevitably think about it,” Foner said. “You can reach so many people through film, television, and the Internet that it’s actually a political action if you think of it that way.”

Both Foner and Gates talked about the pull between motherhood and career. Gates said that just that morning, her daughter and her husband had both asked whether she’d be home that evening. Work demands sometimes keep her away. Having only one child was a conscious decision: she wanted to give her daughter as much time as possible.

Foner suggested women should stop looking at their careers as now or never. Young children can take priority, but eventually they will leave the nest and there will be time to refocus on a career. “Being with children when they’re a certain age is really urgent and important,” said Foner. “I often pursued my career in order to be there for my kids when they came home from school.

What I didn’t know when I was doing that was that I would have this huge, wide part of my life [when] I wasn’t with my kids, and I could do all these things without any kind of feeling of being torn to pieces,” she added. “There are ages of your life. You can make choices based on knowing that they’re coming.”

Following the panel was the screening of the film *American Revolutionary: The Evolution of Grace Lee Boggs*. Boggs ’35, now 98, attended the screening and spoke before the film was shown and answered audience questions after. The film, which poses as many questions as it answers, captures her life as a writer, activist, and philosopher and explores her connection to the civil rights movement through historic footage and interviews shot over a 10-year period by the filmmaker, who is also named Grace Lee.

“My mother did not know how to read and write because she was born in a little Chinese village where there were no schools for females,” said Boggs. “My father owned a restaurant. I was born on top of the restaurant. When I cried, the waiter said, ‘Leave her on the hillside to die because she’s only a girl baby.’” She added, “I think it’s important to say these things because one of the reasons why I work for change is because I was born female.”

Boggs said when she was at Barnard, she was one of only four students of color. Barnard and the world have changed greatly since then, which is both exhilarating and scary. “When one race, which has dominated, feels that it’s lost its supremacy, it feels endangered,” she said. “A lot of things are happening in this country now I think that people do not realize are dangerous.”

Boggs, who earned a PhD in 1940, recently completed her fifth book, *The Next American Revolution: Sustainable Activism for the Twenty-First Century*, in which she discusses the emergence of urban gardens and farms, and how they not only provide sustenance but also reconnect communities.

When asked how activists can avoid burnout, Boggs, who has lived in Detroit for 60 years, said people have to realize they are part of transformation. She also noted that she chose not to have children because she did not see how she could balance motherhood with the civil rights work to which she was committed. “If you have a sense of history, it will give you strength, give you power, grow your souls,” she said. “We have the opportunity to grow our souls. Not as a thing, but as a capacity to create the world anew. That’s the time in which we’re living. If you have that sense of history, you realize that we can grow.”

For information about *American Revolutionary: The Evolution of Grace Lee Boggs*, go to americanrevolutionaryfilm.com.

IN CONTEXT

SPEAKING WITH PROFESSOR LISA GORDIS



In 1630, the poet Anne Bradstreet, a well-educated woman, emigrated with her family from Britain to America. Among her fellow travelers was her father, Thomas Dudley, who had been the steward to the earl of Lincoln. What remains of Bradstreet's life upon arrival is her poetry. Bradstreet composed both sweeping poems about the history of the world and shorter poems addressing events in her more personal history, including births and deaths. She prepared a manuscript edition of her poetry, which her brother-in-law had printed in England as *The Tenth Muse, Lately Sprung up in America* (1650). In a later poem, Bradstreet complained about errors introduced when friends "less wise than true...exposed" her book "to public view." It's unclear how widely Bradstreet intended her poems to be distributed, and whether she ever intended her poems to be published in print.

Professor Lisa Gordis, who teaches early American literature in the English department and will assume the role of department chair this July, says the fact that a 17th-century writer like Bradstreet would choose to have her work circulated as a manuscript rather than printed on a press was not unusual for the time: often written works were published scribally, with readers copying texts and passing them to other readers in a chain of social connections.

Now, with new options for publication such as blogs, websites, and other technological innovations, Gordis says that examples from literary history give context to the contemporary conversation. "It's useful to be able to look at shifting modes of publication today and consider them in light of changes in publication practices over the last four centuries."

It's also the type of contribution Gordis feels she and her colleagues should make. Their field of study benefits, she wrote in 2006 in the journal *Early American Literature*, "when others understand that it is relevant rather than dry and dusty." Connections and comparisons to present-day circumstances, she adds, "help bring the texts and issues

of early American cultures alive to our students."

Early American texts sometimes need help coming alive. While books of the period's history have often been numbered on the best-seller list, writings *from* that time aren't quite as popular. "Most early American texts are not beach reading," Gordis says. The texts require a great deal of effort up front, she acknowledges, but it's worth it. "To understand these texts in literary terms, one often needs to know something about theology and history. So, for example, one needs to understand how Jonathan Edwards thought salvation happened, to understand why he would write about grace as a taste of honey but also give a sermon in which he represented the sinners as a spider dangling by a thread over the fires of hell.

"Part of my job," Gordis adds, "is to help students work their way into these writings so that they can see how interesting and exciting these texts are." At Barnard she teaches a variety of courses, mainly on early America, including American Literature to 1800 and American Literature 1800–1870.

Gordis uses technology to support her students' efforts. Thanks to increasingly accessible digital archives, she can introduce primary materials in the classroom with greater ease than in the past. For example, in teaching *Moby-Dick* recently, she was able to share period political cartoons featuring shipwrecks and whales. A class blog helps students in big lecture classes engage with one another and the material.

Gordis came to her subject as a college student at Harvard; she entered expecting to obtain a degree in biology. But in an American history class, she became fascinated with Anne Hutchinson. The more Gordis studied Hutchinson's story, the more it drew her in. Hutchinson, the daughter of a minister, who came to

Continued on Page 71



SHOPPING OUR WAY TO SALVATION

EXPERTS CONSIDER THE HIDDEN COSTS OF CONSUMER CULTURE

It's hard to escape the "I shop, therefore I am" culture. Yet what we buy, where we buy it, where our products come from and are made, and even whether we should buy something in the first place have serious implications for the global economy and the environment.

That was the premise of a provocative April panel discussion held in The Diana Center Event Oval: Can Consumption Save the World? Moderated by Peabody- and Emmy Award-winning journalist Alison Craiglow Hockenberry '88, adjunct professor at Columbia's Graduate School of Journalism, the conversation, driven by Hockenberry's questions, explored the complicated issues surrounding production and consumption. The panel featured Paige West, Tow Professor of anthropology; Sandra Goldmark, assistant professor of professional practice in the theatre department; Eleanor J. Sterling, director of the American

Museum of Natural History's Center for Biodiversity and Conservation; and Dean Cycon, founder of Dean's Beans Organic Coffee Company.

The panel explored the hidden environmental and economic costs of items like coffee and clothing, as well as ways for the audience to think about the urge to consume. The existential dilemma, expressed by West, came down to "How do you live life with the constant anxiety about what you buy and what you don't?"

Consider the Oreo cookie. "The larger question is how consumption is often dispossessing someone somewhere else," said West, linking the palm-tree oil used as an ingredient in the cookie—and many other products, from tennis shoes to lipstick—to these issues. For example, in comparison to our society, said West, many of those in the developing world leave a gentler

Continued on Page 72



Front row (from left), seated: Gabrielle Davenport '15, Mel Meder '14, Nicole Mabry '14, Rachel Katz. Second row, seated: Madelyn Popkin, Rachel Rosen '14, Isha Shah '15, Lauren Bonilla '15, Caroline Lange '15, Michelle Loo '16. Standing: Rosie Bleck, Rachel Karpf, Mary Margaret Barr, Jessica Cannon, Kyara Andrade '16, Lily Fishman '16, Shannon Browning '16, Lauren Malotra-Gaudet '15, Evangeline Delgado. Not pictured: Steph Wasser '14, Elianna Kaplowitz '14.

HEALTHY AND WISE

PEER EDUCATORS COUNSEL STUDENTS IN HOLISTIC WELLNESS PROGRAM

Even on the darkest winter afternoon or during the most stressful stretch of the semester, there's one place Barnard students can rely upon for a warm welcome, or at the very least, a massage chair, free chocolate, and a listening ear—room 119, Reid Hall.

Here, in what is known as the Well-Woman office, visitors can grab a cup of herbal tea, plunge into soft couches, and chat with Jessica Cannon '03, the program director for health promotion and education, or seek the counsel of one of

20 students who are the office's volunteer staff. Called peer educators, these students are trained to speak and facilitate workshops on topics with which many college students struggle, including sex, sleep, and stress. While in college, there's more freedom to experiment, but it is also a time to establish healthy habits. It's a time to think about issues of "sleep and diet and relaxation, and find the techniques that work best for you," says Cannon.

Many colleges employ peer counselors at student-health

services. But for an elite and intense urban school like Barnard, where the attractions of New York City often beckon, and where some students complain about a sense of isolation, the Well-Woman program creates a safe and friendly community within the larger university.

Positions in this volunteer corps are highly sought after, and as a group, the peer educators sustain the Well-Woman program. Celebrating its 20th anniversary last year, Well-Woman is “administratively supported, but students do so much of the work,” says Cannon, who served as a peer educator during her own college years, and who has worked in the office since graduation.

Peer educator Rachel Karpf ’15 suffered through depression during her first year of college, and last fall helped organize the first mental-health awareness program at the Columbia/Barnard Hillel. Of Well-Woman Karpf says, “Jessica exudes so much empathy and knowledge, I just want to follow her around and learn. The office itself is easily my happy place on campus...so many good vibes.”

More than 200 peer educators have passed through the program, many going on to careers in public or mental health or to become doctors, midwives, or nurses, according to Cannon. During the 2012-13 academic year, the office recorded more 1,600 visits during office hours; more than 3,000 program attendees, including participation in the weekly knitting, yoga, and running groups; 13,000 blog hits; and 1,136 members on the Healthy Monday list-serve, which offers weekly tips on topics such as exercise, sleep, and nutrition.

Peer educators bring diverse strengths to the job. Evangeline Delgado ’15, for example, an English major, who is also vice president of the Latter-day Saint Student Association, enjoys helping first years adjust to the dietary and budget challenges of college life, but says it is okay that her faith precludes her from counseling about contraception since it does not condone premarital sex. “If someone comes to me with a question about contraception, I say, ‘That’s great, let me send you to health services or Jessica.’”

On the other hand, Madelyn Popkin ’14, president of the Student Government Association, and a leader of the queer community on campus, says her most fulfilling experiences occur “when a student comes in kind of freaking out about sexual issues or identity, and I tell them it’s okay, and connect them with resources.”

Peer educators also help fellow students by sharing their own practices. Mary Margaret Barr ’14, who has worked as a peer educator for three years and is majoring in neuroscience,



Jessica Cannon

acquires a sense of inner peace when she knits. She leads a club here, often with bluegrass music humming in the background. Political science major Rosie Bleck ’15, planning on medical school, has started the group Running with Rosie. Bleck used to run cross-country in high school, and missed the camaraderie. Plus, she finds the activity calming, especially when you adhere to a conversational pace.

Peer educators at Barnard undergo a week of training before school starts in September, and also commit to weekly meetings with Cannon every Monday, as well as to holding their own office hours. They sign up to staff the center

for one or two evenings each month, which on busy nights can mean assisting as many as 10 walk-in students. Peer educators also help run various programs throughout the year, not only facilitating smaller workshops but also organizing game nights, arts nights, and campus-wide study breaks such as a cupcake-decorating event in December and a milk tasting in May, at which students sample everything from cow’s milk to hemp milk.

But many peer educators love the environment so much they stop by whenever they can. On a dreary afternoon in late March, the office provides a cheery respite. Shelves are stocked with board games, a brilliantly colored quilt drapes over the couch, the periwinkle walls are adorned with stories of girls’ experiences of their first periods, and Barr is plunging into her chemistry notes, a smile on her face.

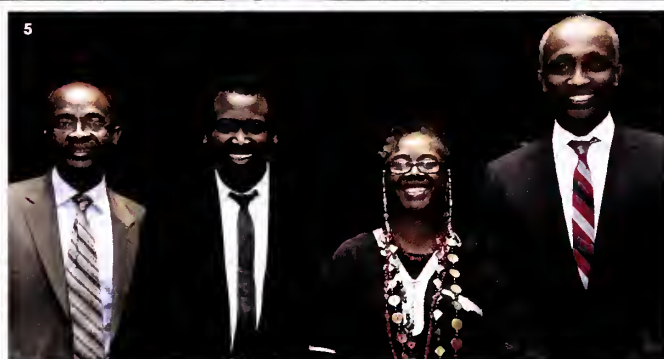
In her years as a peer educator, Barr has gathered some tools to lead a more balanced life. “Now I know that I need to space out my studying and do some during the daytime,” she says. “I also make sure I talk to at least 10 people a day and I see enough trees,” because she misses the greenery of Alabama, where she grew up. Rachel Katz ’15, another peer educator in the office, has an idea that could help: What about buying plants for her dorm? Replies a grinning Barr, “I used to have a flower. It lasted a whole month. I have a black thumb.”

The pair exchanges thoughts about self-care and sleep routines, with Katz remarking that she aims for eight or nine hours every night. A women’s gender and sexuality studies major, Katz adds that she’s one of several peer educators who enjoys sharing information about sexual health, whether it’s debunking myths (“Can I get pregnant in a hot tub?” is a common one) or calming the nerves of a student who has become sexually active for the first time.

Like Barr, Katz feels at home in the Well-Woman office. “I thumb through the magazines. I talk to Jessica. I use the markers, like, every day,” she says, indicating the art supplies on a nearby table. She laughs. “There’s glitter, too.”

RIGHTS AND RESILIENCE

NOBEL-WINNER LEYMAH GBOWEE LEADS A SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN IN AFRICA



(Read from left) **1** Abena Busia and Leymah Gbowee **2** Madeline Taylor '16, Julie Zeilinger '15, Thando Mlambo, and Marine Galvez '14 **3** Amina Mama, Abigail Disney, Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi, Sylvia Tamale, and Tina Campt **4** Kathryn Tobin '08 **5** Samuel Doe, Kennedy Odede, Busia, and Mohamed Yahya

Nobel Peace Laureate and Barnard Distinguished Fellow in Social Justice **Leymah Gbowee**

promised attendees a “naughty day.” And the March academic symposium was indeed filled with frank, enlightening dialogue: panelists didn’t hold back in expressing frustrations and concerns on subjects related to African Women’s Rights and Resilience, the title of the all-day event.

Held just days after International Women’s Day and coinciding with the meeting of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, the symposium featured distinguished scholars and activists who addressed issues facing feminists and activists throughout Africa. The Gbowee Peace Foundation USA, Barnard’s Africana studies department, the Athena Center for Leadership Studies, the Barnard Center for Research on Women (BCRW), the consortium for interdisciplinary studies, and Barnard’s president’s office sponsored the event.

“The women’s movement in Africa is very vibrant,” said Gbowee. “We have successful women there who fight for social change and a really active community at the global and national level. The media seek out stories of suffering, but ignore realities of strength.” She added, “It is important to attempt to correct some of the myths and misconceptions about the strength of the African woman.”

All three panels—Women’s Rights and Transnational Feminisms; African Men and Feminisms; and Intergenerational Organizing—addressed issues of collaboration and working collectively toward the future.

“They were all really great panels. I especially liked the first one because these are professors and documentary filmmakers that we’ve gotten the opportunity to read and watch,” said

Thando Mlambo '17, a student in Gbowee and Professor Tina Campt's feminist colloquium.

Campt, director of the Africana studies department, moderated the first panel, which included Professor Amina Mama, Nigerian British feminist activist, researcher, and scholar; Abigail Disney, filmmaker and philanthropist; Professor Sylvia Tamale, Ugandan feminist lawyer and academic; and Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi, cofounder of the African Women's Leadership Institute and the African Women's Development Fund. Mama is the founding editor of *Feminist Africa*, a journal of gender studies. She said that 20 years ago when she began doing this work, African feminists met one-on-one to develop a forum to share their voices.

One point that resonated throughout the day is that North American feminists often feel they need to export Western feminism to Africa. Disney called that the primary obstacle to the West's success in promoting feminism on an international level. "We need to give our resources and let them do with it as they see fit, whether or not that matches our predetermined definition of what it is a feminist should be," she said.

Tamale said that because patriarchy and the backlash against women's gains are global, feminism is always global. Adeleye-Fayemi expressed a similar position, noting there is a global citizenship as women. There is also a lot of unfinished business in the quest for equality; to achieve that, effective alliances among equals need to be built.

"It's very important to be humble enough to accept the fact that there are women and men from the African continent who know what they're doing, who know what they're talking about, who have solutions," said Adeleye-Fayemi.

The second panel, moderated by Professor Abena Busia, chair of the department of women's and gender studies at Rutgers University, included three men who are not specifically involved in feminist work, but who embrace feminist ideology and try to lead others by example to end gender discrimination.

Busia asked panelists Samuel Doe, Mohamed Yahya, and Kennedy Odede how their feminist perspectives were shaped personally and professionally.

"In a sense, society has let inequality and submission be accepted as the

norm," said Yahya, who works for the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in crisis prevention and recovery. He emphasized the economic upside of equality might be transformative, noting you cannot marginalize 50 percent of the population and compete globally.

"A challenge to men—step out of your comfort zone to break the shackles of inequalities," said Doe, a senior policy advisor at the UNDP bureau for crisis prevention and recovery. "There is nothing that has value more than humanity."

Odede said he took risks in his own community by initiating discussions in villages, even among men who have never heard the word *feminism*.

Journalist, human rights activist, and founder of the Man Up campaign to promote gender equality Jimmie Briggs moderated the final panel, which addressed the issues and conflicts among different generations of African feminists. "The histories of our liberation struggles, the histories of Africa are certainly imbued in everything that we're doing, but we have to think of our future imaginative[ly] and something we can forge forward," said Hakima Abbas, director of programs at the Association for Women's Rights and Development.

Gbowee said to engage in intergenerational organizing, different generations have to want to engage. She has witnessed frustrations and antagonisms from older and younger feminists. She's even heard young feminists suggest the older generation "retire."

At the same time there is, at times, a feeling among younger feminists that older feminists expect them to ask for permission to be engaged in activism. "Younger women are not asking for permission to organize or to be African feminists—they are doing it," said Abbas.

There is also a need for older feminists to open their minds to LGBT issues. Spectra, an award-winning Nigerian writer, gender-justice advocate, and new-media evangelist, said young African feminists are also engaging in activism beyond the traditional models of policy, protesting, and writing. Not only are they building community through social media, they're engaging in creative activism through music, art, and theatre. "There are avenues that are creating many powerful conversations, raising consciousness,"

Continued on Page 72



"My class set out from Barnard on D-Day, and I want Barnard to keep sending smart, hard-working young women into the world. So I give in all different ways, with benefits for current and future students—and for me. Some Barnard gifts return an attractive income to you. These can make good sense to our 'trained brains,' as our unforgettable Dean Gildersleeve liked to say!"
Françoise A. Kelz '44

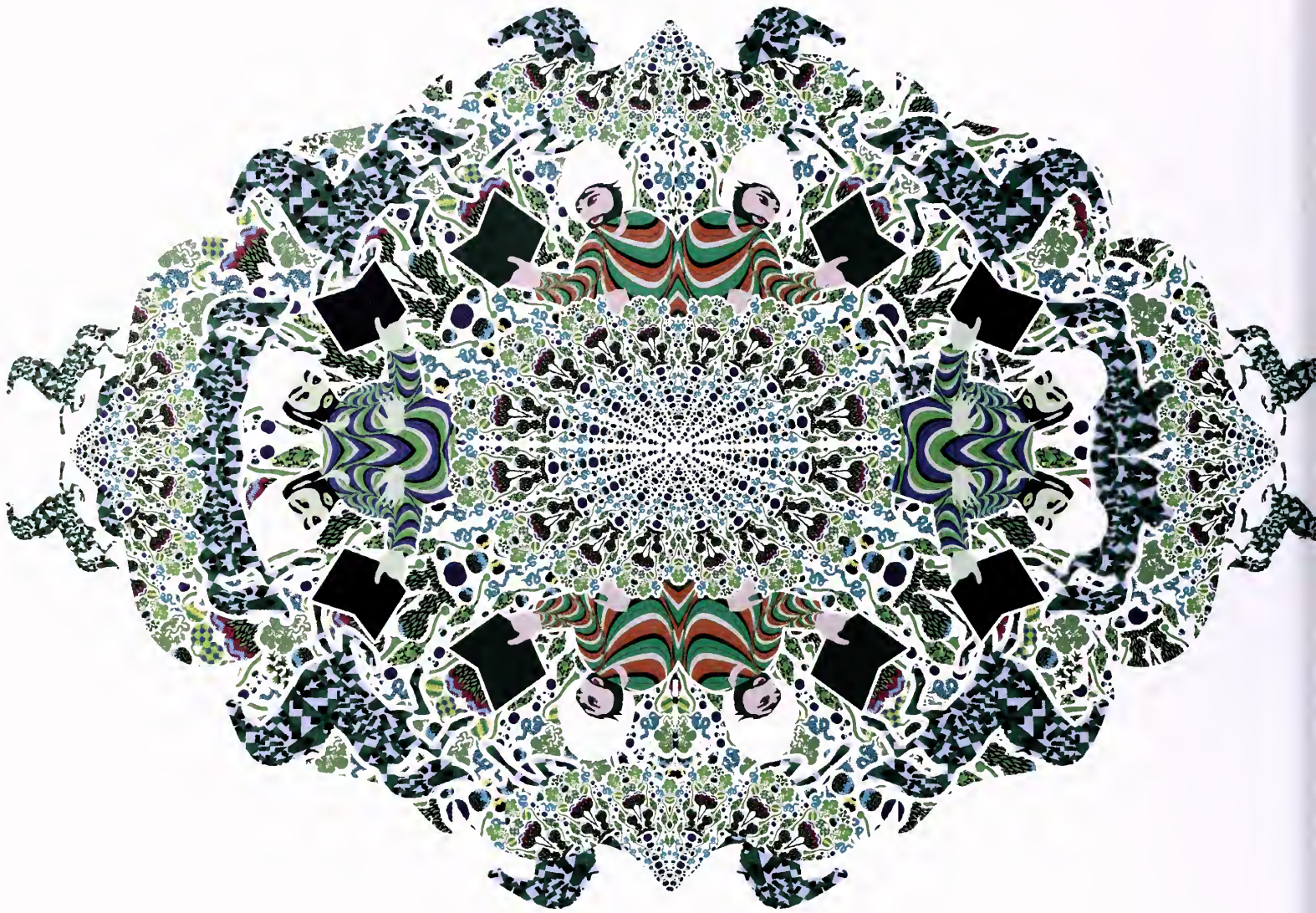
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INQUIRIES INTO ISLAM

NAJAM HAIDER'S COURSE EXPLORES THE RELIGION'S ROOTS AND HOW THE PAST DEFINES THE PRESENT

Last spring semester, human rights major Grace Bickers CC '14 crossed Broadway to take Islam in the Post-Colonial World, a course developed and taught by Najam Haider, associate professor in Barnard's religion department. Her goals were to learn about the religion and get a better understanding of current events. The class not only helped her meet these goals; it also had a major impact on her career path.

Prior to taking the class, her plan was to secure an education-development job at an international nongovernmental organization (NGO); now the 22-year-old senior is considering getting a graduate degree in Middle Eastern studies. "It was one of the hardest classes I've ever taken," says Bickers. "But it has completely changed the way I view the news about the Middle East. I am a much more critical reader because I have a better understanding of the terms that are used and what they really mean."

Haider, an assistant professor in the College's religion

department since 2010, developed and first taught the course at Georgetown University in 2006 while completing his PhD at Princeton University. Since then, the New Jersey native has offered the class at different schools including Barnard. "This course is my attempt to make sense of the modern world in a way that is grounded in the classical world," says Haider, who offers his class once a year.

He begins the semester in late antiquity—the second through the seventh centuries in the context of the Middle East—and ends in the present day. A major part of the class is devoted to examining the impact of colonialism on the Muslim world. "The Muslim world was very powerful for a long time and colonization was a traumatic experience," Haider explains. "Beginning in the 1800s, there have been attempts to rebuild and reverse the perceived weakness of the Muslim world."

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KEEPING SCORE

JULIET MACUR '92

New York Times sports columnist Juliet Macur is constantly on the move—whether traveling the world for her job, rowing on a D.C.-area crew team, or chasing after her toddler daughter. Just a week after she returned from covering the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Macur's first book was released by HarperCollins. *Cycle of Lies* is an in-depth account of the rise and fall of cyclist Lance Armstrong, a biography based in part on the years Macur spent covering the controversial athlete.

A few minutes after dropping off 2-year-old Allegra with her grandmother, Macur sat down for a brief respite in a *Times* conference room. She calls Armstrong a “dark, troubled, sad figure.” She says the book is less about cycling and more “a biography about how Armstrong lied to millions of people and did not flinch,” and how the American public fell for it. She never just writes about scores and statistics. She says, “I want people to be interested who don’t watch sports 24/7.”

Macur was one of the few reporters to speak in depth with Armstrong after he confessed to doping in an interview

with Oprah Winfrey last year. That was just a few months after cycling’s international governing body stripped him of seven consecutive Tour de France titles and banned him from the sport for life. Armstrong’s sponsors dropped contracts worth about \$75 million in future income.

Macur’s contact with Armstrong began a decade ago, when she started covering cycling for the *Times*. In 2006 the cyclist’s lawyer threatened to sue her over a story about doping issues. A few days later, Armstrong started calling Macur frequently to try to influence her reporting. She became suspicious: “He was so obviously doping, so I kept good notes.” She added to those notes last year by interviewing more than 100 other sources, including Armstrong’s family and friends. Her efforts paid off. The book hit *The New York Times* best-seller list in March, and is being published in 20 other countries.

Journalism wasn’t always Macur’s career ambition. Growing up the daughter of Polish immigrants in New Jersey, she aspired to be a lawyer. After graduating with an American

history degree from Barnard—where she was captain of the Columbia crew team—Macur worked as a paralegal at a Manhattan law firm. She logged overtime with a purpose in mind: saving money to train and try out for the U.S. national rowing team. When that didn’t work out—“I wasn’t good enough. My knees were bad.”—Macur applied to Columbia’s Graduate School of Journalism. She pursued sports reporting on the advice of her mentor, special lecturer Sandy Padwe. “Juliet perseveres, she’s got talent, and she works hard,” says Padwe. “You could see that discipline as a rower in her reporting. She’s dogged.”

After graduating in 1997, Macur interned at the *Orlando Sentinel*. Soon, she had a full-time gig covering the NFL’s Jacksonville Jaguars and NASCAR. Reporting on racing as a woman and “a Yankee” was tough, she says, not to mention socially isolating. “I was so lonely I cried almost every single night for three years.” Macur stuck it out, however, by ignoring her critics and diving further into her work. She moved on to *The Dallas Morning News* a few years later. There she met her husband, fellow reporter Dave Michaels. “He covered city hall, while I worked as a features reporter in the sports department.”

When *The New York Times* called in 2004, Macur was excited to move closer to her family. Besides cycling and Olympic sports, her significant projects have included a series about sports and soldiers in Iraq and another about the Chinese sports system leading up to the 2008 Olympics. She became the “Sports of the Times” columnist last fall.

Macur now lives in D.C. She works from the Washington bureau and sometimes rows with the Capital Rowing Club. For the roughly 10 days a month she travels, she often brings her mother to care for her daughter, because “I can’t be without Allegra that long.”

As for Lance Armstrong, Macur does not expect to hear from him again. “He has no self-awareness whatsoever,” she says. “He would have a hard time looking at himself in a mirror.”



A SMART TAKE ON *STUPID THINGS*

SARAH DOOLEY '11

Puffy pants. Tongue piercings. Tattoos.

These are just a few of the “things” that Sarah Dooley celebrates on her debut album, *Stupid Things*, which she released independently this winter. Dooley describes the record as a collection of mostly nostalgic songs about adolescence. “It’s a sweet retrospective on the really dumb things you do and care about as a child and teenager, and longing for the permission you had as a kid to do those stupid things,” she says.

Brooklyn-based Dooley, originally from Indiana, started playing piano as a child. In her senior year of high school she began writing her own music. Until then, Dooley had funneled her creative energy into writing plays and short stories. But after discovering artists Fiona Apple and Regina Spektor, known for their smart and poetic lyrics, she saw an opportunity to marry those interests.

An aspiring storyteller, Dooley found

Spektor’s use of character in her songs appealing. She says that exploring different narrative voices in her own early work was both liberating and empowering. “While I’m definitely more comfortable singing in my own [narrative] voice than I was when I first started writing music, there are still moments where it’s fun to step outside of that and experiment with new perspectives,” she says.

Dooley does both on *Stupid Things*, managing throughout to maintain a sincerity that grounds her often irreverent lyrics. She holds that balance in place with a simple vocal delivery that’s at once measured and effortless. The album has received some attention, and iTunes sales jumped when NPR featured Dooley and her songs.

In the anthemic “Teenage Elegance,” Dooley channels her 18-year-old self, the Barnard first year enamored with, yet still intimidated by, New York City.

An ode to unrequited love, “Shadows” chronicles the romance unfolding between the silhouettes of two characters, and “Gym Looks Nice” takes listeners back to the wonderful awkwardness of a middle-school dance.

Dooley’s willingness to embrace the awkward has been a source of inspiration across her creative pursuits. As a first year, she created and starred in the comic web series *And Sarah....* The mockumentary follows a painfully awkward student who is struggling to adjust to college life. “I was having all these uncomfortable, embarrassing experiences in my real life,” she says. “Why not put them to use creatively?”

Dooley recruited the help of a Barnard filmmaking student to produce the project and released the episodes on YouTube. Between exposure from the series, which garnered an impressive on-

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HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

JANE ALLEN PETRICK '67

While visiting the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Mass., five years ago, Jane Allen Petrick '67 glimpsed two paintings that felt eerily familiar—though she'd never seen them before.

The Problem We All Live With depicted a little African American girl walking bravely to school between four escorts. On the wall behind her, a burst tomato and a racial epithet hinted at the struggle to integrate schools in the 1960s. Petrick was struck by what felt like a version of her own 6-year-old self: straight posture, folded white socks, and “a dark brown forehead topped by a thick wooly braid,” she says. The other picture that held her spellbound was *Boy in a Dining Car*, whose kindly Pullman waiter immediately reminded Petrick of her beloved uncle Hugh.

Nourished and inspired by the artist's depictions of African Americans, Petrick found herself wondering about the sub-

jects Rockwell had used as models. She spent several years tracking down these African Americans, in addition to Native Americans in his works, and recording their experiences. The result is her book *Hidden in Plain Sight: The Other People in Norman Rockwell's America*.

One of those models was Pauline Adams Grimes, who was 5 when she and her three siblings took part in a three-hour photo shoot in 1952 in Rockwell's studio. The American folk painter Grandma Moses, a friend of Rockwell's, had recommended the Adams family when he was seeking models for a United Nations mural. In Petrick's book, Grimes recounts how the soft-spoken artist offered the children cookies and bottled Cokes. They were paid \$15 each, which was \$5 more than Rockwell usually paid his models, and a welcome windfall for their single mother. In the mural,

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RELEASES

NEW & UPCOMING

FICTION

THREE SISTERS

By Anton Chekhov, Translated by Sharon Marie Carnicke '71
Hackett Publishing Company, 2014, \$10

UP, DO:

FLASH FICTION BY WOMEN WRITERS

Edited by Patricia Flaherty Pagan '94
Spider Road Press, 2014, \$9.99

LIV, FOREVER

By Amy Talkington '93
Soho Teen, 2014, \$17.99

NONFICTION

HAIR STORY: UNTANGLING THE ROOTS OF BLACK HAIR IN AMERICA (SECOND EDITION)

By Ayana D. Byrd '95 and Lori L. Tharps
St. Martin's Press, 2014, \$16.99

CHARITY AND SYLVIA: A SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IN EARLY AMERICA

By Rachel Hope Sinnreich Cleves '97
Oxford University Press, 2014, \$29.95

PARADOX

By Margaret Cuonzo '91
The MIT Press, 2014, \$13.95

MY BOYFRIEND BARFED IN MY HANDBAG... AND OTHER THINGS YOU CAN'T ASK MARTHA

By Jolie Kerr (Anjolie Madan Ealer) '98
Plume, 2014, \$15

TREATING AIDS: POLITICS OF DIFFERENCE, PARADOX OF PREVENTION

By Thurka Sangaramoorthy '98
Rutgers University Press, 2014, \$39.95

FAIRY TALES, MYTH, AND PSYCHOANALYTIC THEORY: FEMINISM AND RETELLING THE TALE

By Veronica Schanoes '98
Ashgate Publishing, 2014, \$104.95

A WORLD ELSEWHERE: AN AMERICAN WOMAN IN WARTIME GERMANY

Sigrid von Hoyningen-Huene MacRae '63
Viking Adult, 2014, \$27.95

FACULTY

SHAKESPEARE'S MONTAIGNE: THE FLORIO TRANSLATION OF THE ESSAYS, A SELECTION

Edited by Peter Platt with Stephen Greenblatt
New York Review Books Classics, 2014, \$17.95



From left: President Debora Spar, Yang Lan, and Wu Qing

WOMEN CHANGING CHINA

At the 2014 Global Symposium in Shanghai, the question is asked:
Have we stalled?

A key question raised at Barnard's sixth annual **Global Symposium, Women Changing China**, was what has changed for women in China since Barnard organized the first such symposium, in Beijing in 2008. From the beginning, each symposium has addressed women's issues, such as feminism, career opportunities, and cultural change, with outstanding women leaders in business, finance, academia, media, and the arts from the host country serving as panelists. Organized in such diverse cities as Mumbai and Johannesburg, the symposiums have recently added a leadership workshop for high school students directed by Barnard Student Fellows, who apply for the opportunity before the event. This year's was held at the High School Affiliated to Fudan University.

"Where does China stand? Have we seen progress with women's rights?" asked President Debora Spar as she opened the symposium in the ballroom of the Portman Ritz Carlton Hotel, which overflowed with more than 300 attendees, many of them young Chinese women. "Have we stalled?"

Spar moderated the first session, which featured Wu Qing and Yang Lan, among China's most influential and inspiring

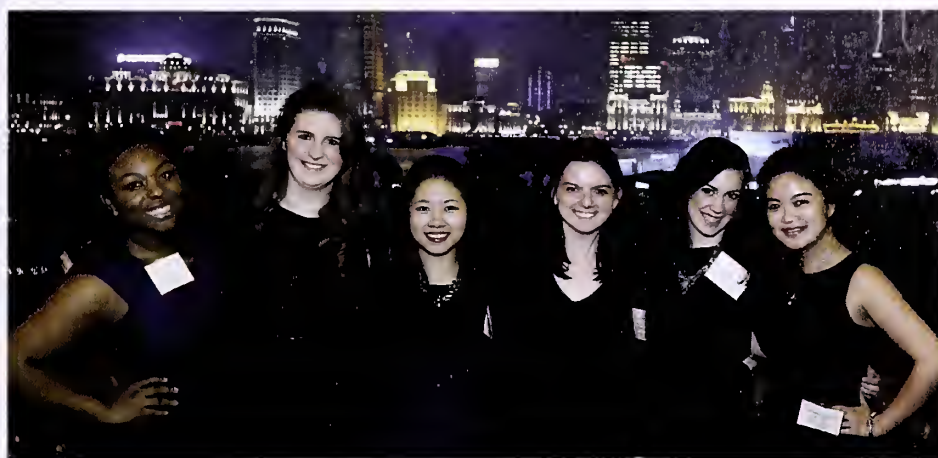
role models, particularly for younger generations of females. They were also participants in the first Beijing symposium. A former professor at Beijing Foreign Studies University, Wu is the cofounder of the Beijing Cultural Development Center for Rural Women, an organization focused on education. A former legislator in the Chinese government, she is an outspoken advocate for women's and human rights, winning international acclaim for her work. Yang is a talk-show host (widely considered to be China's Oprah), journalist, and cofounder and chairperson of one of the country's leading private media companies, the Sun Media Group, as well as of the nonprofit Sun Culture Foundation.

Both Wu and Yang said that women's rights in China are improving, but that there is still a long way to go.

Under Mao Zedong, orchestrator of the Communist revolution in 1949 and the first leader of the People's Republic of China, men and women were considered equal. Mao once famously said, "Women hold up half the sky." Yet in more recent history, gender experts say women have been losing—rather than gaining—ground in China. A concerted women's rights movement



Student Fellow Julia (Jing) Qian '15 (standing) runs a leadership workshop with high school girls.



From left: Barnard Student Fellows against the Shanghai skyline include Cinneah El-Amin '16, Georgina Ustik '16, Julia (Jing) Qian, Sabrina Tompkins '16, Adair Kleinpeter-Ross '14, and Qingqing (Hilary) He '14.

is hard to incubate, given that the Chinese government lumps women's rights under the umbrella of human rights, which remains a sensitive topic in the country. Unsanctioned NGOs are banned, making it difficult for women's rights groups to flourish. Women earn less than men do. In addition, in 2011, the Beijing government reinterpreted a property law, implementing a rule that homes would revert to the buyer upon divorce, which could leave countless women homeless.

However, Wu said that more women are aware of their legal rights, particularly at the grassroots level in rural areas, and that more are "fighting back" by staging small-scale protests or directly questioning government officials when they feel their rights have been violated. In 2012, women in Beijing staged a protest demanding more public toilets for females. As part of the protest, they occupied men's public bathrooms. While seemingly benign, the operation, dubbed Occupy Men's Toilets, was seen as an example of women's newfound willingness to take a stand.

More women are getting involved in politics, particularly at the village level. Wu said five women from her education center have become officials in their home villages. "It means they can at least make some of the decisions at the grassroots level, which will benefit women's rights, and that they are good role models," Wu added. "But if you look at China's top leadership, all are men. I think we have a long way to go. Change comes very slowly."

Wu stated that young women, particularly at the college level, have a heightened awareness of their rights. In Beijing and elsewhere in the country, female university students are staging *The Vagina Monologues*, which only a couple of years ago was banned in China. "It has caused a lot of support as well as protests," she said. "But I think the students are great because they know that girls are human beings before they are girls. We are all human beings first."

Both Yang and Wu focused on the moral responsibilities women have in China where breakneck economic growth, fierce competition for material security, a declining stronghold of Communist ideology, and a dearth of religion or other belief systems have created a social structure that has little regard for common humanity. Yang said that Chinese women have to worry constantly about the safety of the food they feed their children. Women also face barriers in their professions; companies often prefer to hire men because of a pervasive mind-set that women will be too much of a burden to a company if they have children. While women widely outperform men in many majors at universities, their male classmates tend to be offered more jobs.

"I do think we are changing for the better and for the worse at the same time," Yang said, noting that it is a pervasive phenomenon for young women in China to care about marrying a "wealthy middle-aged man" at the

expense of their careers. She pointed out how there was a widespread outcry after a contestant on a reality dating show said she would "rather cry in the back of a BMW than on the back of a bicycle." Yang added that the general feeling was "What is happening to... girls? What is their value system?"

Both panelists agreed that it is hard to generalize about the situation for women across China. In urban areas, more women seek higher education and go overseas to study and work. Yet in rural areas, women who work often have to travel—sometimes thousands of miles—to other cities, leaving their children with grandparents and likely seeing them only once or twice a year over holidays. "For working women in rural areas, there is a huge stress on their life balance," Yang said. "We have at least 50 million children in rural areas left behind with their grandparents. Imagine the emotional toll taken on these women. It is just beyond imagination."

"No rights are given or granted," Wu said. "You have to fight every step of the way forward, and you have to be prepared, especially in China. It is not easy."

Afternoon sessions for the all-day event focused on successful female entrepreneurs and how they have navigated the business landscape in China in sectors including finance, education, media, and the arts.

Read more about the Shanghai Global Symposium and see more photographs and videos of the events at barnard.edu.



IN SEARCH OF EXCELLENCE— DESIGNING A NEW LIBRARY

Karen Fairbanks collaborates with her partner and staff to produce an architectural showplace



It was a challenge—replacing a 1950s brick library that had seen better days

with one that more than doubled its capacity while providing visual ties to its surroundings, a neighborhood at the far end of Queens near the Long Island border. The Glen Oaks community had long been aware that its library, a branch of the Queens public library system, was inadequate; but it took eight years once the project was awarded for the old structure to be razed and replaced with the new one. A ribbon cutting for the new 18,000-square-foot facility finally took place in September, and was clearly an instant hit; as *Architectural Record* magazine noted, the Glen Oaks Library attracts “a crowd of regulars even before the doors open each morning.”

The building’s forward-reaching design is the work of architect and Barnard Professor of Professional Practice in Architecture Karen Fairbanks, her partner and husband, Scott Marble, and their firm, Marble Fairbanks. Marble teaches

architecture at Columbia’s Graduate School of Architecture; Fairbanks, who joined the Barnard faculty in 1996, eventually became chair of the College’s architecture department, responsible for developing the department’s present curriculum and digital lab. She and her partner were married in 1993, one year after establishing their firm, now based in Brooklyn. Since then, they have developed an impressive client list that includes Hunter College, the City University of New York, the Museum of Modern Art, New York University, Parsons the New School for Design, Pratt Institute, Princeton University, the Architectural League of New York, and Columbia University.

With strong interests in education and sustainability, Fairbanks and the Marble Fairbanks team incorporated these ideas in the Queens library’s design, which expanded the building’s capacity while hewing to code and zoning regulations, which required them to build a large

portion of the library underground. “We built below-ground, right up to the property line,” she explains. A series of skylights was created to direct sunlight into the adult library on the lower level. Above that is the teen library, which has walkout access to a landscaped plaza with benches for seating. The upper level is the children’s library.

The glass facade on three sides of the new building not only invites natural light, but also links the library visually to the community without overwhelming its neighbors. On one side, the building aligns with a row of two-story houses along the residential street beyond it. Glass dominates, but the building is not simply a glass box. There are curves as well as corners, and portions of two exterior walls are covered with cement-board panels. The design also includes a vast series of vertical translucent glass panels made of channel glass, which has a greenish blue tint to it. The building’s insulation is integral to the panels, and is actually



inserted inside the glass channels, which diffuses the natural light and also reduces the flow of solar heat into the building interior.

Testament to the inventiveness of the design is the seemingly mysterious appearance of the word “SEARCH” in huge capital letters that extend along a glass wall above the library’s main entrance. That word, says Fairbanks, “is a reference to the idea of searching for information,” and she explains how the ghostly letters are never stationary, moving and changing shape and scale over the course of a day. The word appears on a section of clear glass in the north elevation, projected by sunlight coming through the back of the parapet from the south. The letters disappear at night—they can only be seen when the sun is out—and, of course, look different summer and winter.

Building on the search theme, at street level, the architects designed clear glass walls with a ceramic frit pattern on the glass. From a distance, the pattern resembles bound bookends, whereas up close, one sees that the frit pattern has

the word “search” translated into each of the 30 different languages spoken in the neighborhood. “What we did is take demographic information from the census,” says Fairbanks. “We wanted to create an interesting graphic that almost resembles books on a shelf from a distance but also contains actual information about how many people speak each language—an interesting way to communicate an idea of the identity of the neighborhood.”

At Barnard, Fairbanks’s title is professor of professional practice, and she believes she was among the first at the College to receive that designation. “It’s a title acknowledging that I have a creative practice outside of academia,” she explains. “That is my work; it’s different from being a tenured faculty member. I’m not tenured; I am not an adjunct. I’m full time. The research I do is different from the kind of work that a traditional academic would be engaged in.”

Fairbanks teaches courses on architecture, technology, and design. “My emphasis is on design studios, where students are assigned actual projects,” she says. “The studio situation has a small

number of students—the teacher-student ratio is 1 to 10 or 1 to 16, depending on the what year the student is in—and I also meet with them one on one. They’re basically majoring in architecture but get liberal arts degrees. To be clear, we’re a combined major between Barnard and Columbia. The departments were merged in 1996. I had been teaching at Columbia for eight years prior to that.”

In 2008, the firm completed its design of the Toni Stabile Student Center at Columbia’s Graduate School of Journalism. This structure at the Broadway edge of the campus provides two levels of usable space, part of which was in an exterior space between the Pulitzer building and Furnald Hall. The student center contains a café, a student lounge, interview stations, teaching lab, library, study area, and conference rooms, plus a suite for doctoral-student use. “Installing an enormous movable glass wall in the café part facing the plaza helped to transform the relationship between the journalism school and the campus,” Fairbanks explains. “We [also] cut into the floor at the back of the main

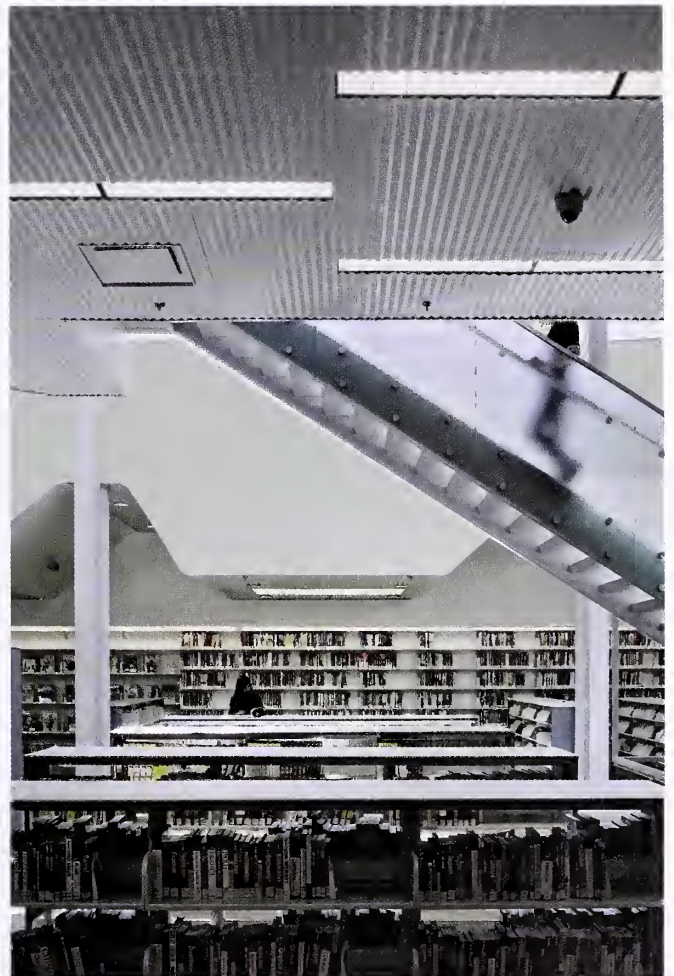


social area off the [Pulitzer building] lobby to make a connection to the lower level, and try to connect some of the programs downstairs with the programs upstairs, which was a new social hub.” One of the intentions of that project, she adds, “was trying to find a way for the student center to have its own unique character and space while also improving connections to the Columbia community at large.”

Fairbanks recalls becoming “interested in architecture primarily by taking college courses in art, environmental studies, and urban studies.” After two years at Connecticut College, she transferred to the University of Michigan—Connecticut College didn’t offer an architecture major—received her bachelor of science degree in architecture there in 1981, then earned a master of architecture degree at Columbia, where she was awarded an SOM Travel Fellowship, a William Kinne Fellows Traveling Prize, and the AIA Medal.

In 2004, Marble and Fairbanks were the Charles & Ray Eames lecturers at the A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Michigan. *Marble Fairbanks: Bootstrapping*, a book of essays, was published on the occasion of their lecture. In 2007, the couple gave a Michael Owen Jones Memorial Lecture at the University of Virginia, their appearance coinciding with a university exhibition that turned a deserved spotlight on their award-winning design for the slide library at Columbia.

Today, Fairbanks not only interacts with students as a full-time instructor, but also serves as an exemplar of how to run a modern-day architectural practice and how that practice can enhance a community, a campus, and beyond.





CELEBRATING AFRICANA STUDIES

Professor Monica Miller talks with Quandra Prettyman about her 40+ years of teaching at Barnard, her contributions to the study of African American literature, and the recent growth of a program into a department

I interviewed my colleague, friend, and senior lecturer in the English department, Quandra Prettyman, on a recent sunny afternoon. Quandra teaches Explorations of Black Literature: Early African American Literature 1760–1890 on Thursdays, and has a ritual of going to Le Monde restaurant on her way home for a bowl of French onion soup. She invited me along, and when we arrived at the restaurant, she asked for a table near the window. At 80 years old, Prettyman is quick and nimble both physically and mentally—she took off her coat, sat down, ordered her soup and a Bloody Mary like the regular customer that she is. Sitting across from her, with a cup of coffee and a slice of rich chocolate cake, I looked into her warm, friendly face and marveled at her devilish smile. She does not suffer fools, so I was relieved when she began the conversation about how she arrived at Barnard, her 40-plus-year career at the College, and her thoughts about Barnard’s Africana studies program becoming a department.

“He told me that an associate position would be safer,” Prettyman said, looking out the window onto Broadway. She was talking about a conversation she had in 1970 with Barry Ulanov, chair of the English department, about coming to teach at Barnard. “Safer?” I asked. “Yes, the best piece of advice I have received in my adult life was to drop out of Michigan’s English PhD program and teach at Barnard. I’m so grateful to Barry for that advice,” she reassured me.

This was a certainly unexpected turn for our conversation—I wondered how a job interview for a college teaching position could include a welcome suggestion not to complete a degree. Over the course of our lunch, Prettyman explained how the relationship between her personal and

professional life and Barnard’s efforts to integrate the faculty and curriculum in the early 1970s resulted in her interview with Ulanov and her subsequent long career at Barnard.

“I came home and said, ‘I think I’ve just been hired!’” Prettyman explained, indicating what happened after her initial meeting with Ulanov. Living on 110th Street with her family, she had been teaching English at the College of Insurance and the New School. Though she had been living quite close to Barnard and Columbia, neither place, especially Barnard, was “on her radar.” But Janet Thaddeus, her neighbor and a Barnard English department faculty member, had been telling her for “quite a while” that she “really ought to come and teach



Monica Miller



Prettyman speaking at the department's first in a series of Distinguished Alumnae events, *Creating Dangerously*, which welcomed writer Edwidge Danticat '90. Photo by Asiya Khaki

there." Frustrated with Prettyman's lack of initiative, Thaddeus finally made an appointment with Ulanov for her, telling her where and when to show up. History was made that spring day. Prettyman went to the meeting and Ulanov convinced her to start teaching what was then English A (now first-year English), though she had planned to stay home with her infant daughter for a while longer. Not intending personally to integrate the faculty, she was nevertheless among the first to do so, after an especially difficult time in Morningside Heights in the late 1960s. English A was the department's signature course, and as a new hire, Prettyman was enjoined to use her training in 17th-century and Modernist literature. She said that "Barry advised me, rightly, that I shouldn't go *there*," with *there* being further studies in 17th-century literature.

CAREER LAUNCH

She understood his advice as practical and political. He seemed to intuit that as a young black woman and one of the first generation of professors of color, she would be doing multiple kinds of work in and out of the classroom, given her excellent and progressive education—first in Baltimore, at the famous Frederick Douglass High School (alumni include Thurgood Marshall), at Antioch College, and later at the University of Michigan. Prettyman understood his insistence that Barnard would be "safer" as meaning that he could provide her a supportive

space to do her teaching, writing, and scholarship. (She was already a published poet.) For her, Barnard could be a place to educate *with* an example of excellence, rather than *as* an example of the academy's newly enlightened racial politics.

"I never wanted to be a teacher," Prettyman asserted, explaining that her parents were teachers in the Baltimore public school system, first in segregated schools where they taught grade school (her father) and sick children in the hospital and at home (her mother). Desegregation for her family meant that her parents changed jobs; because of the excellence of their work, both were plucked out of the "black" school system and put to work in the predominantly white system. Her father became a high school counselor in a white school; her mother found herself exclusively teaching white children, because she was finally allowed into their homes. Teaching was a good job for African Americans in the mid-20th century, a well-regarded option for black people. Prettyman never understood the true nature of the "respectability" that teaching held for her father until she read his obituary, in which he was curiously described as a musician, which was not how she knew him. "He was a teacher!" Prettyman insisted. But then, she explains, she remembered a basement full of jazz records and a seemingly unused upright bass that stood in their house. Reading about his life, she realized that her father had "really been" a jazz musi-

cian who settled into a life of marriage, teaching, and respectability in Baltimore. Perhaps her father "never wanted to be a teacher" either, and maybe it was also a "safer" choice for him and his eventual family.

NEW COURSES

Barry Ulanov did not initially hire Prettyman to teach African American literature—that came later. She recalls actually asking if she could do such a course, in 1972. Previously, she had taught a course called *The Negro Character in American Fiction* at the New School, which she thinks may have been "the first class taught at a predominantly white institution that had African American literature at the forefront." When she arrived at Barnard, she learned that a Columbia faculty member had taught an early course, at the time of the 1968 protests. While Prettyman recalls almost all good memories from this time—including the excitement of developing the course, of beginning her career attending to early African American literature, of having students take the words of slaves and themselves seriously as scholars—she did mention that when some complained that Prettyman and her course were "just a result of affirmative action" she felt angry and hurt. "Safety" is, indeed, a relative concept. When I asked her about this class at Barnard, she smiled, and with light gleaming in her eyes, told me, "The first or second time you teach a course is the best." Populated almost exclusively with black students, male and female, the 1972 version of *Explorations of Black Literature* was a hit. It was in this classroom that Prettyman found her passion and also honed the teaching style for which she is famous today.

ONLY THE BEST

Her pedagogy has won her respect, admiration, and, for some, a healthy fear. "When Emmanuelle St. Jean '04 came to Barnard, she was assigned my first-year English class. When she was done, she swore she would never take another class with me," Prettyman chuckled. "But when I ran into her on the fourth floor of Barnard Hall her sophomore year, I grabbed her arm and said 'I've been waiting to get you back!'" St. Jean enrolled in Prettyman's *Explorations* class and worked just as hard, if not harder, than

Continued on Page 74

ENTREPRENEURS DRIVE THEIR OWN DESTINIES

Starting a business can be a natural outlet for talented Barnard women. (Think Martha Stewart '63, Hanky Panky's Lida Orzeck '68, and Liz Neumark '77 of Great Performances.) Some alumnae always planned to be entrepreneurs. A career setback, need for a better work-life balance, or a desire to bring an idea from concept to market can also lead to a start-up.

Entrepreneurship has also found a home on the Barnard campus. The Athena Center for Leadership Studies recently launched Entrepreneurs@Athena to address the specific needs of women entrepreneurs. There are also programs for students, including one that pairs them with established entrepreneurs as mentors. "No matter what career you pursue, even if you never become an entrepreneur, you can use these leadership muscles," says Nathalie Molina Niño, cofounder of the Athena group and a veteran of the dot-com industry.

For alumnae, there is the Barnard Entrepreneurs Network (BEnet), which had its first event in May 2013. In addition to providing opportunities for relationship building, the sessions feature an educational program focused on a specific industry or entrepreneurial challenge. BEnet's founding cochair, Christina Lewicky '87, formed the group to develop opportunities for alumnae entrepreneurs and those contemplating that career move, "to cultivate professional relationships with one another." (Read more about BEnet on page 35.) On the following pages, see how six alumnae entrepreneurs transformed their visions into reality.



Amy Kallman Epstein '67

If you had a child sometime within the last 30 years, chances are good that you placed her meals on one of Epstein's educational place mats. Whether it was the alphabet or geography, the mats developed from her own needs; son Josh was a slow eater. *Find a way to keep him interested*, she thought.

Epstein's path to launching her own business wasn't predictable. A history major with two master's—in history and architecture—from Columbia, Epstein became a senior urban planner for New York City's planning department. She developed the place mat as part of an industrial-design class at Parsons where she'd been assigned an end-of-semester product presentation that was to be something "the world was waiting for." One of the reviewers, a Bloomingdale's buyer, told her she might be interested in buying the mats, if Epstein ever decided to make them.

There were four original Read-a-Mat designs, featuring shapes, colors, numbers, and the alphabet, tucked into a tote bag. A New York children's boutique, the Hired Hand, bought them—a "game

changer," says Epstein. Her award-winning products were featured in *The New York Times*, among other media, and were later sold around the world. With her husband's support, Epstein ran the business, The Straight Edge, from their Brooklyn brownstone before she got office space nearby. The place mats were manufactured in Long Island City. Achieving work-life balance was important to her. She says, "As a working mother, my office was three blocks away. My kids helped my staff at trade shows."

Epstein expanded the line to include puzzles and books and eventually sold the company to Melissa & Doug (melissaanddoug.com), an educational children's toy company, in 2008. Widowed in 2009, Epstein started another venture, Pintree Designs (pintreedesigns.com), which sells Epstein's artisanal handpainted and pen-and-ink designs on marble tiles, glass vases, and wood boxes. Says Epstein, "Entrepreneurship is less of a driver. I have different goals than when I started The Straight Edge."



Danielle Chang '94

It's not surprising that Danielle Chang, the daughter of Chinese immigrants who moved to Taiwan (her birthplace) from Shanghai and then to the West Coast, would grow up to found the company, LuckyRice (luckyrice.com), that focuses on Asian culinary culture. Through food festivals in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Las Vegas, and Miami, the events feature dinners, tastings, and other activities highlighting Asian cultures through the lens of food. "As an Asian American growing up, I wanted to create an Asian lifestyle brand," Chang says. "The idea had to have cultural and personal significance. Food is appetizing and appealing to all people." The significant Asian presence in America, as well as the growing popularity of Asian food, made this an attractive opportunity.

Chang drew on contacts in the hospitality industry, where she had worked, to entice major chefs to participate in her events, including non-Asian chefs like Eric Ripert and Daniel Boulud. "Even if a chef is French trained, they play with other ingredients. It's a globalized world," she says.

LuckyRice isn't her first solo venture. Chang, who had been the CEO of the fashion company Vivienne Tam, went on to become the publisher and founder of *Simplycity* magazine and Simplycity.com, which she had to close after 9/11. "I had to build back that confidence," she says. This time around, Chang didn't have to worry too much about financing, as LuckyRice is not a capital-intensive business. She's careful to have a company without "big overhead; we outsource what we can. We want to focus on the heart of what we do."

Working for herself suits Chang, who is the mother of two. "I liked the entrepreneurial life," she says. "I like the responsibility and get frustrated by corporate bureaucracy. I can set my own schedule."

Chang majored in art history as an undergraduate, then worked as a curator, art dealer, and teacher before returning to Columbia for a master's degree in critical theory. "I didn't think of a linear career path. Being an entrepreneur builds on all those experiences," she says. "[Barnard] really taught me, and my generation, that the sky's the limit. The sense of confidence is really very empowering."



Francine Benzaken Glick '77

Born in Alexandria, Egypt, to a French-Jewish family, Francine Glick spent her childhood on 100th Street and Riverside Drive. At Barnard, she majored in computer science, which meant taking classes at Columbia and petitioning for a special major. That early experience helped prepare Glick for her entrepreneurial venture. “Barnard gave me an ability to do whatever I wanted to,” she says.

Glick spent her early career at Bell Labs in New Jersey, working in software and product management. She later earned an MBA from New York University and went on to investment banking. It wasn’t until Glick was doing the “mom-carpool thing” that the idea for Hands2GO came to her. Hand-cleaners were on the market, but one of her daughters didn’t like the strong alcohol smell. Glick played around in her kitchen sink until she came up with an alternative. She located a chemist to commercialize the formula, obtained two patents, and launched her alcohol-free hand sanitizer in 2003. Currently sold at her company website, waterjourney.com, Hands2GO is American-

made in New Jersey, Florida, Pennsylvania, and California, and is popular in offices, schools, nursing homes, and hospitals. Recently she signed a licensing agreement with the American Red Cross, which “opens all markets,” says Glick. Being branded with the American Red Cross logo means the sanitizer will also be taken into disaster zones.

Her background as a computer-science major has helped Glick as an entrepreneur. “I understand the technology,” she says, of the programs retailers use to order and receive products.

Not everything works as smoothly. “The biggest barrier has always been raising capital, which I think is harder for women,” says Glick, who’s relied mostly on family and friends. But the emergence and growth of social media makes “marketing easier, because the cost of entering is much lower,” according to this active alumna, who is currently the vice president of her class and candidate for the vice presidency of Barnard’s alumnae association.



Sarayu Srinivasan '91

Sarayu Srinivasan has always embraced change and challenge. “I’m really a self-starter,” she says. “I taught myself to swim, I taught myself to ride a bike, I hung a tire swing.” That intrepid spirit explains in part why Srinivasan decided to launch Kaargo, an online consumer transport and logistics marketplace almost a year ago. “I saw something that hadn’t been done, and I couldn’t understand why,” she says. She spent time kicking around the idea and wanting to find the right partner. A couple of years went by. Then she realized the timing was perfect. “I wanted to work for myself,” she adds, “and build my own team. Our goal is to build the product and then perhaps raise more money.” She knows technology and the venture capital field; recently as a director at Intel Capital, she focused on everything, from digital media and e-commerce, to analytics, and cross-border tech businesses. A former brand manager at PepsiCo, she also worked for several software and services companies.

Her willingness to seize opportunities was evident from the beginning of her career. “There were not that many women in

private equity,” says Srinivasan, who worked in the U.S., and overseas in developing markets.

Raised in Washington, D.C., in a family steeped in science and mathematics (her late father was an engineer and her mother, a professor, also worked on Wall Street), Srinivasan’s move into finance and technology was a comfortable progression. A transfer student from Mount Holyoke, Srinivasan came to Barnard, where “the bigger world is always in your face,” which helped her gain an invaluable perspective. (She remains engaged as a member of the Athena Leadership Council.) An architecture major with an English minor, she also took a certificate in medieval studies from Cambridge University. She held a research fellowship from Harvard Business School, and has a business degree as well.

As an entrepreneur, Srinivasan is mindful of “the huge responsibility I have to these investors...and to my employees. My anxiety is looking up and to the side of me, seeing people who’ve given up their jobs. It’s humbling to have people dependent on me.” Still, she says, “I feel great.”



Jamie Rubin '01

Shortly after Jamie Rubin returned to Yahoo! from her maternity leave in 2008, she was “totally shocked” to be among the 1,200 people laid off. She began planning her next step. “I knew I didn’t want to go back to media. The hours are rough and I didn’t want to be away from my daughter that long.” So Rubin used the opportunity to pursue her vision of making and selling stylish nursing tops. The result? Milkstars (milkstars.com), which now also includes maternity wear and pajamas. “I didn’t like the clothing available while I was breast-feeding,” she recalls. Plus, she says, Rubin was confident she could pull off the business. “I knew the market, I knew where they would sell,” she says.

Working with connections and the outplacement counselor Yahoo! provided, Rubin dove into the world of trade shows and manufacturing. She was committed to having her products made in the United States. Fortunately, Los Angeles has many small factories that could produce her designs.

Using her severance from Yahoo! for the start-up funds, she did everything possible to “keep my costs low.” Rubin has one

full-time employee and one part-timer; the rest are contractors. Her husband, a Columbia graduate she met during her senior year, helps with the company’s accounting. “The biggest obstacle was the confidence to go with what I was feeling,” says Rubin. “You doubt yourself all the time. It’s the ‘give-up gulch.’ The ones who succeed find a way out of that.”

Rubin was a political science major at Barnard. While a student, she interned at MSNBC and with documentarian Ric Burns. She later took advantage of the College’s “great career development office,” landing a job with the NBA, and later the WNBA, after graduation. “Barnard really helped me get comfortable networking. When I worked in admissions [as an undergraduate], I saw how strong the alumnae network is.”

Rubin, who has since had another child, knows she will ultimately “do something else,” although she doesn’t yet know what it is. She still thinks, “It’s so cool that someone bought what I made.”



Pooja Badlani '01

Confess it. You can't help clicking on those Internet lists revealing the 10 best hair dryers, or the 10 best printed pants you can't live without. Maybe you've landed on Rank & Style (rankandstyle.com), a website that offers those kinds of addictive lists. Pooja Badlani and her partners, who cofounded the site, which launched last April, are determined to do everything they can to make it one of the more visible and appealing sites upon which to click. The site relies "heavily on algorithms" to be unbiased, says Badlani, who is chief creative officer at Rank & Style. "Our lists are all based on consumer research data."

Expert and consumer product reviews, editorial recommendations, and best-seller lists help them arrive at their rankings. Badlani says, "We cover the fashion and beauty world, so there'll be basics, like leggings and jeans, and seasonal products like sunscreen." With her partners, she determines the editorial calendar and then "works with writers to bring the copy to life." Their model relies on getting a percentage of sales when readers buy from a company.

The digital world is a natural habitat for Badlani. At Time Inc., she was an art director for the web and mobile platforms of two lifestyle brands; she also was a senior designer at Sundance Channel, now SundanceTV.

Badlani majored in art history and visual arts, and earned a graduate degree in communications and digital design from Pratt Institute. At Barnard, she worked on the South Asian literary magazine, designed for the yearbook, and was a secretary of the Student Government Association, all of which gave her confidence to launch her own business. "Barnard taught me I could do anything, and to challenge myself."

Badlani grew up in Syosset, Long Island; both her parents are doctors. "They're so proud of me, even though they thought I was a little crazy for quitting my job with health benefits," she says. Many in her father's family in India are entrepreneurs, but she says "I never really saw myself here. It [does] makes sense. I wanted to be creatively challenged every day."



Passing the Torch...and Farewell

As my term as president of the AABC comes to an end, I find myself grasping for something to connect all my years of education and service to the college I love. So, on a warm day in early spring, I took a slow walk through campus and I found her: the iconic statue of a female torchbearer donated by the Class of 1902 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Greek Games.

Strong, proud, and fearless, she has watched over Barnard for almost 90 years. She was there to greet me on the day I walked through the gates for the first time, and she was there to say farewell when I graduated. She has been a constant as I returned to campus for countless meetings and reunions over the past three decades. She has been there for all of us and has literally weathered every storm for over a century. She is showing signs of age, but is still inspirational. Like so many Barnard alumnae, she faces the challenges of the world with spirit.

Therefore, I was excited to learn that the Class of 2014 Senior Fund will go toward the restoration of this wonderful symbol of the strong Barnard women who attend and graduate from this college. As one senior put it, "She will shine once again." I am excited to support the senior class with a challenge gift to encourage participation in this effort to restore the statue to its glory.

My own march forward for Barnard is coming to an end for now. Proud of my service to the College, I will cherish my memories of the many alumnae from past decades, recent graduates, and everyone in between. It has been my privilege to meet and work with so many wonderful women. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the alumnae with whom I have served as board and committee members, and regional club leaders. The most gratifying part of being AABC president is to be in the company of intelligent, creative, and inspiring women. And it has been an honor to meet and work with all the current student leaders who will become alumnae.

A special thank-you to Erin Fredrick and her hard-working Alumnae Affairs staff, who strive to make every event, every meeting, and every program a success. Together, we have succeeded in bringing the Alumnae Association to a new place and reconnecting more alumnae to the College than ever before.

I plan on returning for events and reunions, and to spend time with our students. I will be here to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the College next year, although my days of planning and leading are coming to an end. But on that spring day as I sat near Spirit of the Greek Games, a relay runner carrying the torch, I saw in her a symbol for me: this June I too will pass the torch to other women who will lead the way for the College—Barnard proud!

Sincerely,

Mary Ann LoFrumento '77

President, Alumnae Association of Barnard College

Alumnae Trustee

Special Events Highlight Regional Groups

Regional Networks

The Barnard regional alumnae network is made up of highly valued groups of interesting and intelligent volunteers who open their personal networks to their Barnard sisters. This year, many of our clubs devoted their gatherings to discussing the professional and personal balancing acts that women engage in to be successful in all facets of their lives. Regional clubs have discussed these issues through book-club meetings, receptions with President Spar, professional-development workshops, and conversations with our own alumnae experts. This regional network allows our alumnae the opportunity to explore topics of personal interest while also connecting with their Barnard sisters to bridge the gaps between graduating classes, and build lifelong relationships based on the life-changing experience of a Barnard education.

If you are interested in learning more about any of the Barnard clubs or regional events, visit alum.barnard.edu, call 212.854.2005, or e-mail alumnaeaffairs@barnard.edu. Barnard wants to connect with you, wherever you are, and we look forward to expanding these connections in your communities throughout the world.

Celeste L. Rivera '04, manager, regional alumnae programming



The Barnard Club of Los Angeles Celebrates the 100th Birthday of Ethel Booth '32

Alumnae in Los Angeles gathered at the home of Marcia Gordon '77 in March to celebrate the 100th birthday of one of

the club's most active members, Ethel Booth. Ethel regaled the group with stories about Barnard and the world in general as she experienced it over the last century.



Northern California Club Shares a New Student Tradition With Alumnae —With a Twist

On the last day of classes each fall and spring semester, students gather at 11 p.m. in the gym to enjoy the campus tradition of Midnight Breakfast. This Barnard tradition was created to build community spirit and has become a cherished event over the past 15 years. Students get to destress and eat well before they hunker down to study for exams. More than 1,000 students attend, most of whom wear pajamas, robes, sweats—anything goes—and many won't change from that attire until they've taken their last final. Lisa Lin '98, president of the Barnard Club of Northern California, was there at the beginning of this Barnard tradition and continues it today. For the last three years, the Barnard Club of Northern California has hosted Midnight Breakfast for alumnae at a local restaurant, using the event to raise funds for their Barnard scholarship fund. The event has been so popular that they need to book two seatings at the restaurant, and have raised approximately \$2,000 each time for their scholarship fund. The success of this venture has inspired alumnae in other regions to plan their own Midnight Breakfast-style events to allow young alumnae to relive a newer Barnard tradition while introducing it to earlier classes.



The Barnard Club of the Triangle Annual Dinner

This past October, the Barnard Club of the Triangle (North Carolina) hosted Elizabeth Gregory '78, director of the women's, gender & sexuality studies program at the University of Houston, at its annual dinner to discuss work-life balance and examine why women are choosing to pursue options such as having children later in life. Approximately 40 alumnae attended, and they spent the evening networking and planning their calendar of events, in addition to listening to Dr. Gregory.



The Barnard Club of Central New Jersey Honors Lida Orzeck '68 at its Annual Scholarship Luncheon

Over 100 women attended the annual Barnard College Club of Central New Jersey luncheon organized by Renee Swartz '55 at the Molly Pitcher Inn in Red Bank, N.J., in support of raising scholarship funds to send a young woman from Monmouth County to Barnard. Lida Orzeck '68, CEO of Hanky Panky, was honored and spoke to the attendees about women making their way in the workplace.

BEnet: Barnard Entrepreneurs Network

The **Barnard Entrepreneurs Network (BEnet)** seeks to create context for building relationships among alumnae entrepreneurs. BEnet embraces a broad definition of “entrepreneur,” which includes founders of companies at all stages of business development and all small business owners. The group provides networking opportunities for alumnae and students who are curious about starting their own businesses.

The inaugural BEnet event was held in May 2013. The leadership group, which includes Christina Lewicky '87, Janey Lee '98, Jessica Stevenson '10, Suzanne Katz '92, and Bianca Swift '00, has organized several popular events, and the group continues to grow exponentially. Over the past year, BEnet events have ranged from panel discussions with female business owners to intimate conversations with visionary leaders to social events and a tour of Google's New York campus. Highlights included: a conversation with Shelley Zalis '83, CEO of Ipsos Open Thinking Exchange; a lecture by Rita Gunther McGrath '81, author and professor at Columbia Business School; and a panel with five acclaimed restaurateurs. On April 1, BEnet organized a panel of social entrepreneurs from the NYC B Corp community. Stay tuned for their next event.

Follow @Barnard_BENET on Twitter and like the Barnard Entrepreneur Network on Facebook.

VIDEOS OF THE FOLLOWING BENET EVENTS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE ALUMNAE NETWORK:

- Dreaming in Digital: Small Business Marketing in Today's New Business World
- Disruptive Innovation and the Evolution of a Lifestyle Brand
- A New Playbook for Business Strategy in Today's Fast Changing World
- The Entrepreneur Restaurateur on Breaking Culinary Ground
- B the Change—Using Business as a Force for Social Good

To view any of the above, visit alum.barnard.edu and search for BEnet. Look for videos of upcoming events in Alumnae Network Notes, the Alumnae Association's monthly e-newsletter.



B the Change moderator Sophie Faris, community development lead at B Lab with panelists: Noha Waibsnider, founder and CEO, Peeled Snacks; Elisa Miller-Out '97, founder and CEO, Singlebrook Technologies; Christina Lewicky, BEnet chair; Jennifer McKaig, employee and social impact lead, Etsy; and Suzanne Katz, wealth management advisor, Merrill Lynch and BEnet leadership group member. *Photo by Shelli Luchs*



Rita Gunther McGrath, author and professor at Columbia Business School, spoke about her new book, *The End of Competitive Advantage: How to Keep Your Strategy Moving as Fast as Your Business*, and how its lessons apply to entrepreneurs. *Photo by Lisa Hancock Photography*



BEnet leadership group members Jessica Stevenson, vice president, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management; Christina Lewicky, BEnet chair; Janey Lee, founder, Hanees Designs; and Katie Adams Wannen, owner at The Plannery, with inaugural event speaker Shelley Zalis, CEO of Ipsos Open Thinking Exchange. *Photo by Lisa Hancock Photography*

ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

The Alumnae Association of Barnard College was established in 1895 to further the interests of the College and connect alumnae worldwide. Learn more online at alum.barnard.edu.

PRESIDENT & ALUMNAE TRUSTEE
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Terry Newman '79

TREASURER
Emily Peterson Alva '96

ALUMNAE TRUSTEES
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Camille Kiely Kelleher '70
Jyoti Menon '01

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CLASS NOTES

For classes without correspondents, send notes to:

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1938

I am sorry to report the death of our classmate and friend **Jane Block Blum**. She died on February 16 and is survived by her two daughters, four beloved granddaughters, and one cherished great-grandson.

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1941

Doris Prochaska Bryan writes: "Since September, things have been quite a blur for John and me. At that time, I had a fall in the shower, which has completely changed our life situation....I suffered a fracture of the head of the humerus on the right shoulder. I am undergoing therapy to regain as much movement as possible....The fall has triggered some additional medical problems. My eyes aren't as good as they once were, but I have good readers available to help me. We now hire home health aides around the clock, mainly to keep me

from falling again and to help us with everyday housekeeping. John, meanwhile, has continued fairly well and has been an enormous support despite his age of 96. Our children and grandchildren are a great help and support and make frequent visits, which is a great pleasure to us. Our niece, Ann, also visited from St. Louis. We never anticipated these older years to be so difficult, but one never knows what is ahead. We continue our interest in national and world affairs."

1943

The first person to benefit from our Class of 1943 scholarship is Emma Hede-Brierley, from Lexington, Mass. She made dean's list her first year at Barnard, and is considering a major in history or political science and a minor in education. She is a Barnard Constellation leader in a program that fosters a student network through service-learning projects. She is also a member of the Honor Board. She volunteers at the Cathedral Community Cares soup kitchen. Now, aren't you glad that you contributed to our scholarship fund? It's not too late!

In response to our fall Class Notes, I heard from **Norma Shpetner Levin**, who lives in the Virgin Islands. She, **Sybil Nurco Lisansky**, and **Beatrice Kaplan Walfish** all worked with **Judith Coplon Socolov** on the *Bulletin* back in the day. They all wanted more information from Judy's daughter, Emily, who spoke at our reunion memorial service. I was able to give them Emily's e-mail address because Emily had given it to me for that very reason. Incidentally, Sybil has moved from Delaware to Edgewater, N.J., to be near her daughter.

In the Midwest where I live, there used to be no Barnard club. A few years ago,

Linda Barrows '73 and Danita (Kita) McVay '72 dreamed up Barnard in the Midwest. Folks from as far away as the Dakotas, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin have joined us. We meet for Sunday brunch twice a year at the Women's Club in Minneapolis. The building is a treasure. Built in 1928, it overlooks the city from its lofty perch near downtown. It has a ballroom, a theatre, a huge high-ceilinged parlor, and all the graciousness you would expect from such a venerable structure. After our happy hour in the parlor, we help ourselves to a wonderful buffet and then retire to the privacy of the library to enjoy the food and each other for an hour or so. Instead of saying grace, we sing one of our Barnard songs. Serious networking goes on. We get recent graduates who bring us up to date on the Barnard experience. Mature grads report on families and career changes.

A December 22, 2013, death notice in *The New York Times* tells of the death of **Dorothea Weitzner**. She attended Barnard and Columbia University School of Law before shifting her attention to the arts. In 1969, she was awarded first prize at an inventors' exhibition at the New York City Coliseum. In 1972, she founded the Gallery of the Aquarian Republic. In 2010, she made a substantial gift to the Columbia University Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science in loving memory of her father, Henry Mitchell Weitzner, who was a prominent New York City developer and civil engineer. Our sympathies go to her surviving family. Keep in touch!

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1944

70th Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

Winter birds bring news of a sad departure.

Doris Landre, a dedicated New Yorker and World War II veteran who served in the U.S. Navy WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service), died on November 6. After the war, she earned a master's from Smith College and went on to a 30-year career at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. She rose to the position of secretary to the board of commissioners, the highest-ranking woman in the agency at the time. We salute you, Doris.

Edna Fredericks Engoron died in September 2013. In our 50th reunion booklet, she called her life "fulfilling," with a husband, five sons, two graduate degrees, and a 30-year career in social work. Long a citizen of the Upper West Side, she raced through Barnard in three years. Living in the same West End Avenue building, she delighted in a tale of Sergei Rachmaninoff, who used to clasp his hands behind his back and wait by the big bronze double doors for a doorman to open them, an injury to his famous hands unthinkable!

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1945

This report to the class is a mixed one. As we mark our 69th year since graduation, we have lost three well-known class members—**Miriam Skinner Cartwright**, **Lois Pearlstein Myers**, and **Gloria Zirpolo Raffetto**—but we still have an active group of seniors adjusting well to the advanced years.

First up, the active seniors: **Patricia Hayes Keough's** husband died six years ago, and she moved recently from the big house to an apartment in the same town of Winthrop, Mass., where she overlooks the ocean and can see the Boston Harbor islands and watch the ships pass in and out of Boston. She mentions two book clubs, a

bowling group, and a board position with the historical society. She still drives a car.

Joyce Hardin Ackermann was only at Barnard for her junior year but made many friends who may remember her. She received undergraduate and graduate degrees elsewhere, married, lived in many states, and taught English in private schools. She now lives in a retirement community in Virginia.

Now, for the ever-growing deceased list: **Miriam Cartwright** was a Manhattanite when she was a student at Barnard and longed to see as much as possible of America. She majored in physics and moved to the west, working for the government at U.S. Naval Air Weapons Station at China Lake, Calif., with her husband, William, who was also a physicist. They had four daughters. Two years ago, Miriam moved to a retirement community in Davidson, N.C. She died in December. At Barnard, she took part in many activities, serving on the representative assembly and the athletic association board, and chairing several dances.

Lois Myers died on December 4. She was a sophisticated Bostonian who returned to the city after Barnard. In contrast to her erudite pursuits, she was a down-to-earth gal who loved farming. (During WWII, several of our classmates worked on farms during summer vacations to help the war effort.) Lois was a sociology major; she also did academic work at Tufts and Mt. Holyoke. She married the late Allen Myers, who was a roommate at Dartmouth of **Betty Booth Smith's** husband, Malcolm. The couple lived in Swampscott, Mass., raising four children. Lois was a remedial reading teacher in the Marblehead school system. About three years ago, she moved to California to be near her daughter.

Gloria Raffetto was a Brooklyn girl when she came to study art history at Barnard. After graduation she worked as a fashion illustrator for Condé Nast and as a primary school teacher at Packer Collegiate Institute. She married the late Frederick Raffetto and they established their home in Sea Girt, N.J., where they raised three children. Gloria loved golf, European travel, watercolor painting, reading *The New York Times*, going to Broadway shows, and riding her bicycle on the Sea Girt boardwalk. She died on December 6 after a long battle with ovarian cancer.

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1946

I was glad to reach **Jeanne Orth Rush** in Las Vegas, where she and her husband, Robert, are celebrating their 67th wedding anniversary. Jeanne majored in zoology and became a school librarian for many years, after raising her four children. She traveled a lot as the wife of a military man. The 11 grandchildren that they enjoy have managed to spread all over the U.S. and are carrying on the American dream.

I reached **Alice Durant Sykes** in balmy La Habra, Calif. She majored in French and sociology. After raising six children with diverse talents, Alice attended Whittier College for her education credits and taught in an elementary school in Fullerton, Calif., for 15 years. Alice has 14 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Our class was one of the creators of the baby boom generation. Alice says her children are into varied careers involving airlines, corrugated boxes, doors and windows, and real estate. How wonderful!

Mary Brown Potter lives in Ridgewood, N.J., in the lovely old house that has been her abode for over 60 years. She celebrated her 90th birthday in August. She is lucky to have the company of her daughter, Barbara Hyslop, and her grandson, Stephen. It's an ideal three-generation home.

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1947

Leila Fletcher '15 has sent an appreciation note to our class's memorial scholarship fund. She has a double major in biology and art history while also working in Professor Hilary Callahan's plant biology lab. Her art is on display in an all-female gallery in SoHo. She plans to study in Madrid next semester.

Marilyn Gorman Hopkins lives in Chevy Chase, Md., and is quite active, enjoying tai chi, her classics book club, the League of Women Voters, and the Barnard Alumnae Association. She learned Mandarin while working for the State Department after graduation and obtained a PhD in Chinese history when she was stationed in Asia.

Ruth Raup Johnson retired 18 years ago and lives in Rockwell, Md. She majored in political science, which led to her career in the legislative division of a government health-service agency. She was also a board member of the Memorial Society of Metropolitan Washington, D.C., which provides information services for funeral planning. Now she enjoys playing the violin in a community orchestra.

Marie Beltram McIlvennan celebrated her 65th wedding anniversary last year with her husband, Stewart. They also enjoyed a family reunion in Spartanburg, S.C., last spring. She taught French for many years in Denver and is still subbing. Summer provided time for many interesting vacations over the years. I, **Katherine (Kay) Harris Constant**, always like receiving Marie's Christmas letter. We were floor mates in Hewitt Hall and share great memories.

Another floor mate has surfaced, much to my delight—**Georgia Rubin Mittelman**. She and her husband, Gene, have made a lifestyle change by leaving Connecticut and moving to a retirement community in Dedham, Mass., near their daughters, Joan and Ellen. New friends and interesting courses have proved that this mode of living is a positive choice. They still plan to be snowbirds by spending six months in Florida.

Carole Kessler Roth '72 and Marsha Kessler Autilio '77 report the passing of their mother, **Pearl Stern Kessler**, last August. She was a longtime member of the Barnard Club of Central New Jersey.

Jane Allen Shikoh passed away in November. She was a history and government major at Barnard and earned a PhD in American civilization from New York University (NYU). Her career for the Rockefeller Foundation as an assistant to the president in the position of conference coordinator in Bellagio, Italy, proved

challenging. Jane was a resident of Rockville Centre, Long Island, where she devoted much time to the United Church, the Barnard Alumnae Association, Planned Parenthood, and animal welfare.

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1948

A gusty November wind blew us into the Metropolitan Museum of Art for our annual mini-reunion luncheon. Six classmates reconnected: **Erdmuthe (Mutie) Tillich Farris**, **Anne Kennard**, **Nancy Ackerson Kowalchuk**, **Nora Robell**, **Nora Ravsky Schwartz**, and your correspondent. We were sorry to miss **Rosalie LoCurcio**, **Mary Miller Mack**, and **Adele Kostellow Morrill**, among others who had scheduling conflicts.

Mary Mack is enjoying theatre and other cultural events in New Haven. This year she is vicariously enjoying college visits with her granddaughter, now a high school junior. Will Barnard be on her short list?

Helenmae Wolfert Ziegler is busy volunteering at a hospital, swimming, taking trips to nearby Philadelphia museums, going on theatre outings to New York, and traveling with Road Scholar (aka Elderhostel). Two daughters live just miles away, and a third recently visited from Minnesota. Helen maintains a full social life in and outside her active-adult community. Her secret to good health? She claims it's "V and V"—vitamins and vodka martinis. We say cheers.

We'll share news from **Katherine (Anne) Battley Phipps**'s Christmas letter: "This year has been one of adjustment to retirement living. I tell everyone, I didn't know I was old until I moved here. Some are older, some younger. Despite that, I have made good friends. My hallway is a close-knit group. You feel right at home with all the walkers and scooters. I use a walker now...I sing in the choir, go to exercise groups, work on the wellness committee, and do occasional groups in the health center." Anne was a

nurse and a professor of nursing, so she is a valued volunteer in her community. Two sons and a daughter live near Indianapolis while another daughter lives in Cincinnati. Anne feels fortunate to have them and 10 grandkids as regulars at family reunions. Her rural farmhouse on U.S. 40 is a distant memory. She doesn't miss the snow shoveling one bit.

We are sorry to report the loss of these classmates: **Anne Hargrove Bodden** died December 12, 2012; **Constance (Jane) Sterling Canter** died August 24, 2013; and **Hannah Rosenblum Wasserman** died July 16, 2013. Our condolences to their families and friends. (A note about Hannah appeared in the fall issue of this magazine, before we learned of her death.)

Marie Giles Baldwin died on November 5, 2013, in Dallas. She came to Barnard as a transfer student from Wellesley and Southern Methodist University, and went on to earn a master's from the University of Texas. She was a middle school teacher and tutored elementary school children when she was in her mid-80s. A tireless volunteer for many causes, she also traveled widely—even to Nepal when she was in her 80s. She is survived by her husband, four children, 10 grandchildren, and her sister.

Kathryn Schwindt Zufall died on January 18 after battling Alzheimer's. She leaves her husband, Robert Zufall, five children, nine grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Kay and Bob founded a community-health center in Dover, N.J., that provides medical and preventive services to the needy and uninsured. We've previously reported that Kay worked with her brother to develop and market Play-Doh out of what had been a wallpaper cleaning substance.

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1949

65th Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

Anne Fessenden is affiliated with the Harvard Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies. She holds a PhD, and earlier

in her life was a professor of American literature at Huazhong University. She studied in Paris before transferring to our class in 1948 and was awarded a Fulbright scholarship in Belgium after graduation.

Nancy Hatch Duprée is responsible for the creation of the Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University. The center, which is dedicated to the memory of her husband, Louis Duprée, opened last year. *The Los Angeles Times* had a front-page article about it. She met her husband, an anthropologist, after she wrote a tour guide to Bamiyan, the site of two ancient Buddhist statues that were destroyed by the Taliban in 2001. Louis Duprée's 1973 book, *Afghanistan*, remains a primary source on that country's history and culture.

I was very sorry to learn of the deaths of two of our classmates, **Sybil Gordon Kantor** and **Margaret Forster Swentzel**. Sybil died suddenly on December 14, 2013. Her husband of 65 years, Marvin Kantor, had died just one month before. Sybil left Barnard before our graduation to get married and start her family and returned to college when her youngest entered high school. She then received an undergraduate degree from Queens College, a master's in fine arts from Columbia, and, at 65, a PhD in art history from the State University of New York (SUNY). She is survived by a sister, Barbara Brady; three children, Seth, Rebecca, and Ali, and their spouses; and five grandchildren.

Margaret passed away on April 25, 2013. An elementary school teacher in her community of Byram Township, N.J., for 29 years, she was also an active volunteer in various capacities and was a member of the board of education for 10 years. She is survived by her two sons, Stephen and James, and their wives, five grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter. Her husband, John, died in 1984 and her son John died in 2010. I hope to see many of you at our 65th. —YDD

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1950

First the sad news. **Nell Day Surber** died peacefully in hospice on December 9, 2013. She grew up in Hazard, Ky., the daughter of a high school principal and a railroad-yard master. After Barnard, she earned her LLB at the University of Cincinnati College of Law and was admitted to the bar in 1955. She served on the Cincinnati city council and was a member and/or honoree of many Cincinnati civic organizations. Nell had no direct descendants or siblings, but had many friends and admirers who respected her high personal standards, and who loved her unique spirit and talents.

Ann Hoch Kubie Rabinowitz died peacefully at home in Greenwich Village on January 11 after a brief illness. After Barnard, she earned an MA and ABD in Medieval history from NYU. She was also a published poet and novelist, as well as an enthusiastic singer and lutenist. She lived with her husband and children for many years in New Jersey, where she was a loving and enthusiastic member of an extensive network of children, grandchildren, in-laws, nieces, and nephews. She was also a community leader and committed public servant in Nutley, N.J.

Miriam Scharfman Zadek writes, "For Chanukah, our children and grandchildren decided that my present from them would be an endowed Miriam Scharfman Zadek Family Professorship at Barnard. To say that I was overwhelmed, both by their generosity and their recognition of all that I have felt Barnard gave me, barely states my reaction." (See p. 69.) Wow! Congratulations to everyone involved in this wonderful present.

Jean Moore Cooper reports that all is well in Sun Valley, Idaho, where her husband is still ski racing and she is "still just skiing." For people in our age group that is quite an accomplishment.

Jean Zeiger Cunningham no longer

skis, but is just happy to have a total knee replacement in her past. Prior to that procedure, a trip to Alaska with her daughter, son-in-law, and two grandchildren was enjoyed by all—even the teenagers!

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Charlotte Grantz Neumann received the Dickson Emeritus Professorship Award from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), for outstanding

contributions to her field since retirement. After retiring from UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA in pediatrics, Neumann was named a UCLA research professor, allowing her to complete her ongoing research in nutrition interventions in Kenya for people who are HIV positive. She has also been involved in the Venice Family Clinic, documenting and treating childhood obesity in Los Angeles schools. Neumann has also been recognized by the March of Dimes with the Agnes Higgins Award for career-long contributions to maternal and fetal nutrition, and named a "living legend" by the Union of Nutritional Sciences. Photo: Shweta Saraswat, © UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

1951

I received an e-mail from Allison Poirier '13, the correspondent for the Class of 2013. She said my fall edition certainly got her attention and hoped it would bring lots of interesting items for this issue. Unfortunately, that did not happen, except for news from one of our classmates, **Anne Atheling**, who writes in the spirit that I had hoped for: "In 1949–50, our junior year at Barnard, I spent mine

in Paris, with the Smith College program. Until recently, I had not returned to 'paradise,' but a few years ago, I began self-indulging, spending the fall months living in Paris. I had always connected with the Smith club in Paris, but this year was the first time I connected with the Barnard club in Paris, and I was truly impressed with the cordial welcome of the incredibly hospitable president, Genevieve Ramos Acker '61. As soon as I contacted the club last fall, Genevieve invited a few other members of the club for a delightful welcome lunch with Barnard 'sisters,' as Genevieve refers to us. And when it turned out that I had never visited Giverny, Monet's home, studio, and famous garden just outside Paris, Genevieve coordinated a memorable outing, a scenic day trip in her car, with four Barnard alumnae. And once connected, I attended a meeting of the Barnard club in Paris book club in the charming home of Emma Skoble '88. There I met Kay Rosenberg Bourguine '79, who has her own jazz band in Paris. A few days later, Genevieve joined me for a delightful evening in the Latin Quarter, where Kay and her band were performing at Café Universel, in both English and French. Barnard is well represented in Paris, and the Barnard club in Paris is most welcoming. As for me, Paris always beckons...and with reasonable health, I hope to return this summer."

Now for the sad news: **Mary King Swayzee** died in December of lung and brain cancer. Mary majored in art history at Barnard, graduating just as a new breed of abstract expressionists was coming into its own in New York City. She relished that scene, making friends and studying with artists who became luminaries. She was the subject of Wolf Kahn and Elaine de Kooning paintings. And she drank regularly at the Cedar Bar—the hub of the art world—with Jackson Pollock and Willem de Kooning. After her marriage to Swedish architect Carl Ulstrup ended in the early '60s, she returned to St. Louis, where Joseph Pulitzer Jr. took a chance and hired her to write art reviews for *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. There she remained until 1983, when she left to create art full time. She worked in many mediums, including metal sculpture, ceramics, environmental art, and paint.

She was best known for her portraits.

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1952

Carol Messing Greenberg reports from Texas that she is well and has lived in Texas for 60-plus years. At Barnard she majored in sociology and psychology. She has put that to good use raising her four wonderful children and her nine grandchildren. The latest additions are two great-grandchildren. She is kept busy with the offspring since they live nearby.

Lillian Holmberg Hansen says that she is a great believer in education. She is active in her Lutheran church, serving on the church council and as chair of the board of the church's elementary school. Although she has been a widow for seven years, she still lives in her own home. She has many helpful neighbors in her ethnically diverse Brooklyn neighborhood who help her out when her seven granddaughters and one grandson can't get to her from their more remote areas of New York City. She is called the "mayor of Bay Ridge" because she knows everyone there.

Deborah Slotkin Horowitz and her husband enjoy taking a break from Long Island winters by spending time in Florida, where they enjoy being visited by friends and relatives. They have four children. Deborah sadly reports that her daughter Ruth Horowitz Veit '77 passed away three years ago.

Nancy Isaacs Klein lives in the same house where she has lived for more than 50 years. She has more than 30 great-grandchildren. One of them made her a special calendar to keep track of all their birthdays. She is still a volunteer at Yonkers General Hospital. In the summer she gardens. She uses her snowblower in season and is grateful for help from a granddaughter and helpful neighbors.

It has come to my attention that although **Priscilla Redfearn Elfrey** is not doing e-mail, she is on Facebook.

Linda Schapiro Collins passed away on January 7. She leaves behind

her husband, Arthur; sons Rufus and Jacob; grandchildren Samuel, Nathaniel, Oren, Susannah, Raphael, and Isaiah; and brother Daniel Schapiro. (See p. 67.)

We are sad to report that **Margaret (Peggy) Collins Maron** died on November 5 in Rochester, N.Y. Peggy had moved from Brooklyn to Penfield, N.Y., and subsequently to a nursing home in Rochester to be near her son, Joseph. **Carol Connors Krikun, Claire Delage Metz, and Ruth Ryskind Ohman** attended Peggy's wake in Brooklyn.

Joan Munkelt Wilson, of Pasadena, Calif., died on July 24 from complications following a fall. She was executive vice president of Pacific States University in Los Angeles. After graduating from Barnard with a history degree, Joan got an MA from Teachers College in social studies. She later received an EdD in educational administration from the University of California, Los Angeles. During her career, she held increasingly important positions in secondary schools and colleges, and was a professor at California State University at Los Angeles. Her husband, Charles, died in 1977.

The Class of '52 would like to send condolences to the families and friends of Linda, Peggy, and Joan. —NSH

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1953

More than 60 years since we graduated from Barnard is a long time, and it is understandable that a good number of us have disconnected from that important period for many reasons—we raised families, and our academic and other career involvements took us far afield. However, most of us will acknowledge that these years were very special and in many instances

laid the foundations for our careers. So, it is worthwhile to reconnect. Hoping to hear from more of you for future issues.

From **Anne Betty Jaffe**

Weinshenker we learn that she is still a professor of art history and director of the art history program at Montclair State University in New Jersey. She reminds us that she obtained her PhD in art history from Columbia in 1962. She writes, "Currently on sabbatical, I am doing research for a publication on a set of 18th-century Italian paintings and related French engravings, all on English subjects. My most recent book, published in 2008 with the assistance of a grant from the Kress Foundation, is *A God or a Bench: Sculpture as a Problematic Art During the Ancient Regime*. I've published numerous essays and articles; the most recent, in 2010, is a chapter in the book *Vendetta: Essays on Honor or Revenge*." She is also proud of four young grandchildren and certainly of her daughter, who is a psychiatrist. Wonderful news, Anne Betty.

Serena Lipton Kafker regrets

having missed our 60th reunion but had a significant other calling—the graduation of one of her grandsons from Middlesex that weekend. She writes, "My husband, Frank (CC '53), and I celebrated our 60th anniversary with our two sons, their wives, and our four grandsons, two of whom are following in their father's footsteps at Amherst and Haverford. We continue to travel and this May will take a riverboat cruise in Provence. I have been a docent at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts since we moved here in 1998. Before then we both taught at the University of Cincinnati. I taught business law and Frank was a professor in the history department. We love living in Boston and keep busy teaching and taking classes at the Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement."

And from **Eva Hauser Sperling** we have another impressive description of a fulfilling and successful life. "I continue to enjoy my part-time practice of psychiatry, which includes work with children and adolescents. My husband of 60 years, Dr. Edward Sperling, retired recently. After delighting in our world travels, camping all over Europe, even climbing the Alps, we are content in our house

and garden, where we welcome friends, our children, and our 3-year-old twin granddaughters. Our daughter, Elisabeth, is now a documentary filmmaker after a distinguished career teaching history at the Horace Mann School. Our son, Ted, is well known in the world of musical theatre as a director, musical director, and conductor. Most recently, he was named artistic director of the Collegiate Chorale."

Wishing you and your family many more such fulfilling years. It's how we stay young.

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1954

60th Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

We are gearing up for a wonderful 60th reunion this year! Many events are being planned. I hope you are planning to attend, because some things will depend on your response. The class book is one of them; we can't print it without enough entries.

Larissa Bonfante sent an update:

"I am now a proud grandmother. My DJ son, Sebastian, with his Brazilian wife and baby are settled in São Paulo. The bilingual edition of my translations of the Latin plays of the teacher nun, Hrotswitha of Gandersheim (10th century), has just appeared. I had a lot of fun with the translations."

Annick Szendroi Combier had lovely news. She celebrated her 80th birthday and her children surprised her with a trip to Berlin. She was thrilled by this fascinating city. She writes that it was "very trendy, full of contrasts and cultural dynamism." In May, she became a grandmother for the fourth time to a baby girl named Domitille. She was supposed to have lunch last year with **Ruth Lerman Fitzpatrick**, but the lunch was cancelled. She asks when Ruth will be coming to Europe. Ruth?

I heard from **Vivian Ross Priel**, who

sent a "synopsis" of the 60 years gone by: "I married the Israeli Aaron Florenko (we Hebraicized the name to Priel) while a senior at Barnard. I did my MA in early childhood education and after our two boys were born in the U.S. and Aaron finished his journalism degree at NYU, we moved to his hometown of Rehovot, Israel. We had three more children. Our second son, Adam, died of brain cancer at age 11. Aaron died six years ago after a three-year battle with multiple myeloma. We have 16 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, most of whom live in Israel. After living for 54 years in Israel, I moved a year ago to Baltimore to live with my daughter and her family. Since 1960, I have been working as the executive editor of two science journals. My hours are flexible and allow me to work in Israel and the United States. Although I will be 80 in April, I hope to be able to continue editing for a few more years, as long as my brain and eyes hold out."

Rael Isaac sent a note to say that she celebrated her 80th birthday by publishing a new edition of her 2012 book, *Roosters of the Apocalypse: How the Junk Science of Global Warming is Bankrupting the Western World*. It is a thoroughly anti-PC book describing global-warming doom-saying as an apocalyptic prophesy, with a scientific gloss to make it palatable to the modern mind. The title comes from Richard Landes's study of millennial movements through the ages. Landes calls those who crow exciting new messages demanding urgent action "roosters." I hope Rael comes to Reunion. I predict some lively sessions.

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1955

Joan Goldstein Cooper and her husband, Herb (CC '54), are still taking hiking vacations—the latest was to Norway in August 2013. The scenery is fantastic, especially the mountains and waterfalls, but the standard of living must be higher than in the United States. ("Read \$25 for two

beers at dinner.") Joan and Herb celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in December with a visit from their sons, their spouses, and all six grandchildren. As Joan was married in Paris in 1953 during her junior year in France, she believes that she may be the first in our class to reach the 60th anniversary. (Can anyone claim an earlier date?)

Sadly, **Joy Gould Boyum** reports that her husband, Asmund Boyum, passed away this year just short of their 52nd anniversary. On a happier note, she writes that a granddaughter is a freshman at Middlebury and a grandson has been accepted for early admission to Brown. Two other grandchildren are at Dalton and at St. Ann's School in Brooklyn, with several years before college becomes an issue.

Eva Nauenberg Faillace writes from Barranquilla, Colombia, that many good things have happened lately. Her three children—Ricardo, who graduated from Northeastern in 1977; Michael (CC '79); and Evelyn Faillace Dravis '80—are living in the U.S. Of her seven grandchildren, Michelle Dravis graduated from Boston University last year, and Stephanie Dravis is a sophomore at San Francisco State University. Monica Faillace will graduate from Boston University this spring; Ricky Faillace is at Amherst; and Alexa Faillace is in middle school in Marymount, N.Y. The two youngest grandchildren, Michael and Philip Faillace (8 and 6), are both at the Collegiate School in New York City. Eva and her husband continue to work full time, he at his real estate office and she as counselor and college advisor at Colegio Marymount. At a ceremony in December, the Colombian senate awarded Eva special recognition for her 50 years of uninterrupted work in education, first as a science teacher and, for the last 30 years, as a counselor.

Mary Brown Cannaday is looking forward with great anticipation to next year's 60th reunion (which is hard to believe!) She travels to New York often as her three adult grandchildren, son, daughter-in-law, and two youngest grandsons live in the Columbia/Barnard area.

On a frigid day in January, seven classmates met for lunch at the Atlantic Grill in New York City. Braving the elements were **Carol Salomon Gold**,

Gayle Abouchar Jaeger, Dawn Lille, Marion Toman Marchal, Marcella Jung Rosen, Carol Held Scharff, and HESSY Levinsons Taft. Contact **Jane Were-Bey Gardner** at myblueboat@aol.com for details on upcoming gatherings.

On a personal note, I was delighted to touch base with three classmates—**Jane Trivilino Bradford, Marilyn Chananie Graton, and Eileen O'Connor**—while Bob and I were in Florida in January.

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1956

Piri Halasz writes from Manhattan: "I have a Barnard sweatshirt, which I got at the Barnard shop up on campus. I wear it when I'm trotting around the neighborhood and have had five responses to it in the past couple of years. Two of them were from women walking in the opposite direction, who said as they swiftly walked by, 'Go Barnard!' One was a Barnard woman who was a year or so behind us and with whom I chatted at our local street fair. (I'm embarrassed to say I don't remember her name.) One was a woman who lives in my building. She noticed the sweatshirt in our elevator and said her mother had gone to Barnard, too. The next time we met (over dinner at a local restaurant, separate tables), I mentioned that I play bridge. It turned out that she'd organized a whole group of people into a revolving bridge game, and invited me to join her group. I've had many delightful evenings of bridge since! And one was a very young lady who was waiting for the light to change just a block from where I live. She asked if I'd gone to Barnard, I said yes, and she said, 'Me too. Great school,' to which I, naturally, agreed. She said she'd only graduated a year or so ago."

Catherine Comes Haight writes: "I can't believe I retired from the board of editors at *Fortune* magazine 15 years ago. Where does the time go? However, at 80 I am one of very few women in this area to still be playing USTA 3.5 tennis

at the state and nine-state sectional levels. Most of the others in their 80s are playing for fun here but not for sanctioned tournaments. I'm out on the courts four or five days a week for two hours each time—sometimes twice a day. We have good athletic genes, though no musical ones. Both of my sons went to West Point, where one was ranked the number-one athlete in his class. He is now group surgeon for the First Special Forces, whose responsibility is to cover the Pacific Rim. He was invited to the Olympics in Russia because of a prior assignment giving medical coverage to those who join the Army just to train for national, world, and Olympic sports. My older son, an airborne ranger for nine years, returned from Iraq and started medical school at 36. He finishes his residency this summer just after he turns 44. I guess that proves it's never too late." Catherine also mentions that she takes her three poodles to a nursing home to visit continuing care patients, who miss the pets they used to have.

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1957

It is with great sadness that I report the death of my dear friend **Judith Jaffe Baum**. We met in Barry Ulanov's freshman English class, and cemented our friendship by traveling through Europe together in the summer of '56. Our first children were born two days apart, and our lives continued to be happily intertwined.

Judy was a wonderful friend—warm, supportive, smart, and sensible. She was an active Barnard alumna, serving on Reunion committees, as a class officer, and, with me, class co-correspondent. In her professional life, she was widely respected as an outstanding advocate for public education and shared her vast knowledge of New York City schools in her "Ask Judy" column on the *Inside Schools* website. Judy died of a heart attack on December 20. She leaves her daughters Erica Baum '84 and Jenny, their husbands,

Pushing the Boundaries of Anthropology

Alice Beck Kehoe '56

Every August, since 1991, anthropologist Alice Beck Kehoe has loaded her station wagon with camping gear, driving from her home in Milwaukee to Montana. Her plan: to “hang out with my Indian friends, go on walks, and enjoy the extraordinary, beautiful landscape,” she says.

Kehoe first came to Montana in 1956, freshly graduated from Barnard with a degree in anthropology. She had been hired as an assistant at the Museum of the Plains Indian in Browning, and fell in love with the prairie landscapes and cultures. Over the next six decades, Kehoe evolved into a renowned expert on Native America and Native American history, authoring books on archaeological controversies, shamanism, and religious rituals. Kehoe, who earned a PhD in anthropology from Harvard, taught at Marquette University for 31 years, retiring as professor emeritus in 1999.

Kehoe's ideas have often been controversial in a field she describes as “generally very conservative.” Throughout her career, she has insisted that North American Indians had complex societies, such as kingdoms or states, and carried on trade over great distances, including into Mexico. More controversial is her recognition of evidence for contact between the Americas and Asia, and also Europe, before 1492. It was a notion that, especially in the 1960s, challenged the conventional idea that Columbus “discovered” the Americas. She's currently working on a book about trans-Pacific contact between Native Americans and other cultures predating Christopher Columbus's arrival.

Considered a pioneer in the generation of feminist archaeologists, Kehoe credits her time at Barnard for nurturing her feminist impulses. As she deepened her studies of non-European cultures, she realized that feminism had a lot in common with postcolonial theory—both questioned prevalent prejudices about cultural superiority, she says.

Although Kehoe no longer conducts official field research, she's stayed connected to her Blackfoot friends. In the 1990s, she became involved with two promising experiments on the reservation—a tribal college and a Blackfoot language-immersion school. Kehoe says her work with the Blackfeet has helped her understand the power of silence. “With enough time, you figure out how much you can learn by keeping your mouth shut except to smile,” she says. “Especially as you grow older with people—you begin to get the feeling of what it's like to be in their world.”

—*R.A. Monroe*



two grandsons, and her longtime companion.

We recently got a handwritten letter from **Hiroko Ogawa Fujimoto** in Tokyo. She explains that she'd recently come home from two months in the hospital, after having surgery to correct her crooked back. This enabled her to regain the lost 3.94 inches in height and, hopefully, to walk properly. However, for now she has to wear a heavy corset, which

prevents her from bending over to reach the PC. I sent her a photo of a luncheon we had in November—with threatening weather—where a group of about 10 met. I labeled the photo with our names. Hiro was intrigued. “The members look so young and smart. You can attend meetings and get together regularly. That's amazing.”

Susan Kennedy Storms wrote a note to say hi from Florida, where she has lived for the last 30 years: “Two years ago

I started having trouble writing, typing, and eventually walking. Went into the hospital emergency room, was immediately admitted, and the next day, the doctors removed a disintegrated vertebra in my neck. I then spent several months learning how to write, walk, type, and even how to cut food at meals. Now I am back to normal. I am still doing income taxes at H&R Block, which keeps my mind busy and stretched. I work just during the tax season, and take courses the rest of the year. I also enjoy my house and yard, exercising in the pool, lunching with friends, playing bridge, attending concerts and plays, and other things appropriate for us old folks. All my five daughters are great—busy and getting ready to think about retiring. They live from New Jersey to Oregon, so although I don't see a lot of them, I hear from them regularly. We have 10 grandkids and three great-grandchildren. My household includes three cats and the light of my life, a 10-year-old spoiled-rotten mini long-haired dachshund. One nice thing about living here is that I occasionally get to see some of my classmates when they are in south Florida.”

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1958

The women of our class continue to lead exciting and fulfilling lives and to contribute to their communities and the world in many ways.

Marcia Spelman De Fren writes for her community newsletter, and recently covered the appearance of the legendary singer-songwriter Neil Sedaka at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts in West Palm Beach, Fla. Since they had met in the summer of 1954 when they both were counselors at the same camp, she went backstage to say hello. She reminded him that they cowrote a marching song

for their camp team, and, unbelievably, he immediately began singing it! Marcia writes, "What a thrill that he remembered a song from almost 60 years ago!"

Mary Moore Slusarev reports that she and her husband, who has his master's in architecture from Columbia, still live in their Brooklyn brownstone. Their adult children are "healthy and happy in their work," and their four grandchildren are growing up "far too fast." After Barnard, Mary spent some years "working (mostly unpaid) in reform-Democratic politics." Later she worked on Wall Street as a programmer, and then as a designer of trading systems. Now in retirement, "thanks to those long-ago courses at Barnard," she writes mysteries, "fairly old-fashioned ones, without autopsies, pedophilia, vampires, or sadistic gore." Having published *Ripple Effect* and *A Deadly Primary*, she is now working on a third.

Although she retired from teaching at Columbia seven years ago, **Joan Ferrante** continues to work on *Epistolae*, her database/website offering short biographies of medieval women, their letters, and other documents in Latin, with English translations and brief commentary. Last fall, she presented at an international conference in Siena, Italy. In September, Joan and her family attended the dedication of The Diana Center dining hall to her late mother-in-law, former Barnard president Millicent Carey McIntosh, who was such an inspiration to us during our years at Barnard. She thanks the alumnae of those years and the "indefatigable Vivian Gruder '57" for making it happen.

Hannah Razdow Simon has "become increasingly involved with local activists (mostly women), who work in grassroots efforts in progressive Democratic campaigns." Working for Obama in 2008 and 2012, she started in data entry and then moved up to the organizing team. She was also involved in the Senate campaigns of Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey. This past year, she was team leader for the Arlington Group supporting Katherine Clark's successful bid to fill the congressional seat vacated by Markey. Hannah writes, "It's been incredibly meaningful and fun!"

In response to comments at our last reunion, **Doris Platzker Friedensohn**

and other classmates have begun an online conversation on matters ranging from women and consumer culture to women in politics. Doris writes that the focus is on "how we think/feel about some of the disappointments of the contemporary scene, and what can/should we be doing by way of response?" Anyone wishing to join should contact Doris at doris.friedensohn@verizon.net. —*ARS*

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1959

55th Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

Susan Schwartz-Giblin: "I was fortunate to attend a Christmas party at the White House as the guest of an invitee. It was a memorable experience. After security clearance, I was warmly welcomed by marine guards. The party took place in the east wing. A small marine band played upstairs while a young choir sang Christmas carols downstairs. The food and drink were wonderful, the desserts fantastic. All the food was cut to bite size and served with silver forks on lovely china. There were no knives. The White House was beautifully decorated for Christmas by volunteers from across the nation. There were about 30 Christmas trees—sometimes two in a room. The paintings were beautiful, especially one of a pensive Jack Kennedy. When I felt emotionally drained at the end of the afternoon (three hours later), I was able to sit with my glass of champagne and just contemplate the experience. If only every American could have that opportunity, the country might regain some of its harmony."

Barbara Carson Mayer Afif: "Last year, 2013, was a very exciting year. After five years of togetherness, Peter Afif and I got married on April 2, 2013, in Ridgefield, Conn. On July 6, 2013, one of the hottest days (temperatures at 100 degrees), we

hosted a party. We happily gave up the tent-on-the-lawn plan and held the party in a nice air-conditioned restaurant. I graduated from Bartlett Arboretum and Gardens in Stamford, Conn., to become certified as a master gardener. I learned how to identify weeds and about good bugs and bad bugs. I intend to continue my education and find a way to use the knowledge in my own gardening and working with others."

Susan Braun Liberman: "I'm sorry that I'll be unable to attend Reunion, as I'm living in Israel. I passed the Israeli bar, but I have not practiced here in Israel. I was admitted to the New York and federal bars after graduating NYU law school in 1963. We just celebrated my third grandchild's wedding, and I have four great-grandchildren living in Jerusalem. We have a wonderful Barnard book club in Jerusalem led by Professor Marcia Gelpe, and meet once a month. During a horrendous snowstorm, we had a beautiful Barnard reception attended by dean emerita Dorothy Urman Denburg '70 and English professor Jennie Kassanoff. Professor Kassanoff gave a fascinating speech titled 'Henry James and Stupidity.'"

Frances Horak Caterini: "I'm writing this from Kolkata, India, where Dino and I are visiting old friends. We lived here for four years while he was with the American consulate (1991–1995). I came to play Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 12 in A with the Calcutta Chamber Orchestra, which I restarted 20 years ago. I also played Corelli's *Christmas Concerto* on viola and one movement of a Mozart quartet. Reconnected with old students and friends, my love for this city was reignited. If any musician would like to spend a few weeks in Kolkata working with this chamber orchestra, please let me know. My foundation has funds to send people." —*RJE*

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1960

Marie Mesaros Stewart e-mails, "A voice from the desert wilderness of Arizona, where I have lived for 30 years. I just retired from active practice of anesthesiology. I still teach med students at the University of Arizona three days a week. My career has included teaching, research, private practice, emergency medicine (while my kids were young), disaster-response medicine for Hurricane Katrina and the Haiti earthquakes, and international medicine. Family includes a wonderful supportive spouse, six children, 10 grandkids, and 14 greats. I love traveling to see family or to take the youngest ones on trips. Being a docent at the Phoenix Art Museum has influenced me to travel to museums and take up painting."

Emily Fowler Omura, another retired MD, has also been burning off her excess energy on travel with trips to India and China last year. By the time you've read this, she'll have done Turkey as well. Emily also travels to follow the Mark Morris Dance Group, and she got to visit her Brooks roommate, **Janet Gertmenian MacFarlane**, in Denver and see Mark Morris. They had a great time together and Emily promises to visit me for the next Boston Early Music Festival in 2015.

I asked **Erna Olafson** about her work. "I had wanted to be a psychologist since it got interesting. The day after my divorce was final, I applied to grad school and completed the second doctorate while raising my kids and teaching psychology around the Bay Area. I fell into trauma work while doing an internship during the Presidio nursery school child sexual-abuse case. Childhood trauma found me and has never let go. In 1989, I began work with a pioneer of the field, got mentored fast, and ended up at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Because I've been genetically lucky, I can still work full time with good energy. I had no child abuse history personally, so I cannot say why this is an itch."

Ellen Blanck Kulka says she's retired from law practice and has moved to Turtle Bay in New York City. She's taken up painting, is loving culture in the city, and

hoping to hear from classmates in town. We can tell those of you wanting to see Ellen how to reach her.

In a parallel note, **Myrna Neuringer Levy** e-mails from Toronto saying she greatly enjoyed **Irene Winter's** museum talk and their lunch together. She writes, "I love to meet and greet visiting classmates."

We send heartfelt sympathy to **Joyce Duran Stern** on the sudden death of her 18-year-old grandson, Eitan Stern-Robbins, during an epileptic seizure. Joyce wants all to know that looking up SUDEP Aware on the Internet provides practical information on reducing the danger of dying from epilepsy. If you know anyone with epilepsy, please do this. —SG

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1961

Mary Varney Rorty, writing from northern California, sent one of the best New Year's greetings I ever received: "This time of year even curmudgeons like me are inclined to honor the people I often think about but seldom see. ('Ya don't write, Mary! Ya don't call!') So let me celebrate with you the forthcoming return of the sun to our hemisphere, and wish you and yours as much peace and joy as the season can provide." When I asked if I could include it in this column, she replied, "You poor dear, we must be a remarkably uncommunicative class. But the message is yours, to do with as you will."

In a recent column I mentioned that I attended a symposium on Jewish women writers and memoirs, where I heard **Nancy Kipnis Miller**, distinguished professor of English and comparative literature at the Graduate Center, the City University of New York (CUNY), discuss her book *What They Saved: Pieces of a Jewish Past*. It's a great read, a cross between a family

memoir and a detective story. In 2013, Seal Press published Nancy's latest work, *Breathless: An American Girl in Paris*. Here is a snippet from the tantalizing blurb on Amazon's website: "*Breathless* is the story of a girl who represents those who rebelled against conventional expectations....After graduating from Barnard College in 1961, Miller set out for a year in Paris, with a plan to take classes at the Sorbonne and live out a great romantic life inspired by the movies." I haven't yet read this one, but I plan to do so.

Elaine Schlozman Chapnick, our class president, reports that our class has a new fund chair, **Natalie Rothman Gordon**, who has replaced **Sarita Newman Hart**, who recently relinquished the position. Thanks to Sarita for her hard work over the years and to Natalie for taking on this important task.

And now for some personal news: On January 5, I married Stephan Brumberg at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. No, Stephan doesn't have a Columbia connection; he has degrees from Williams College and Harvard. However, his late wife was Pamela Ween Brumberg '64. There were a number of Barnard-related folks involved in the wedding and subsequent celebration. Stephanie Caplan '91 designed our beautiful wedding contract (*ketubah*). Two friends of long standing attended, Ada Beth Zarn Cutler '70 and Shuly Rubin Schwartz '74. After the wedding, we visited Israel and made a stopover in Paris, where we met **Genevieve Ramos Acker** and her companion, Gérard Lutin. As far as future Barnard connections, Stephan and I have five granddaughters between us; surely we can convince at least one of them to attend Barnard.

Carol Krepon Ingall
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1962

From **Susan Levenson Pringle's** holiday card: she and John had a fantastic year—wonderful activities and no surgeries. They won two regional bridge events, she won several events in a golf tournament, and they traveled to Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Libby Guth Fishman was recently elected to chair the community planning and investment committee of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County (Fla.), which gave her a seat on the executive committee as well. She said the opportunity gives her "a chance to really give back after such a challenging year last year." Congratulations to Libby and her husband, Alan, on the recent marriage of their son, Charlie.

A note from **Roslyn Leventhal Siegel**: "Have been having a grand time bopping around the Barnard/Columbia campus lately with my children and grandchildren. My grandson, Evan, from Washington, D.C., has started Columbia and has fallen in love with the city and the intellectual cornucopia offered by both Barnard and Columbia." He invited her to join him at a lecture in The Diana Center, and the following week Roz went with her daughter, Janine Siegel Rosenblum '88, and her granddaughter, Willa, a high-school senior, to hear a Power Talk. Willa wants to be CEO of something, while Evan wants to study everything. How wonderful to have the resources of Barnard and Columbia so welcoming and stimulating to three generations."

Deborah Bersin Rubin, Judith Terry Smith, and Marcia Stecker Weller met at the College before the recent Athena Film Festival with sophomore Gabrielle Smith '16, our Class of '62 scholarship holder, and Jyoti Menon '01, cochair of the Athena Leadership Council and alumna trustee, to discuss ways to connect with classmates and students.

Marcia Weller took part in the Barnard phonathon: "Not only were classmates home but they were very pleasant to talk to and all agreed to give. Some are actually thinking about putting Barnard in their wills. Even husbands and partners were chatty on the phone...I was shocked to get the prize (a signed copy of Debora Spar's new book) for that day's calling. I'm enjoying the book very much."

Carol Prins and her family are recognizing the 20th anniversary of the death of her daughter Jessica Eve Patt '89. Jessica relished art and art history, music of every genre, social justice, guitar, speaking French, the island of Miquelon,

talking all night, going out dancing, sailing, and knitting, and recognized that her ability to volunteer was a luxury. The family has remembered Jessica through gifts for the Jessica E. Patt '89 Community Service Internship Fund at Barnard. Gifts can be made in her memory. Please contact Dawn Williams in the development office at 212-870-2582 or dwilliam@barnard.edu.

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1963

Sheila Hennessey Mignone advises, "Retire on the high note, not when you're going downhill. So many of my friends are frightened to leave a profession and stay much too long." As for herself, she says she retired from teaching Spanish at the Ursuline School in New Rochelle, N.Y., two years ago—"hopefully on the high note!" Sorry to have missed Reunion, she was traveling, first in Jordan (Petra) and then for two weeks in Israel. She spent the first week visiting the Christian sights of Jerusalem, and the second with "wonderful Jewish friends" who live there permanently. After hosting a holiday sit-down dinner for 105 relatives, she took off for R & R in Costa Rica with her daughters from Boston and Providence and a son-in-law. In between, she visited her youngest daughter in San Diego and younger son and family in Seattle. Her other son, the eldest of her five children, lives in New York City.

A mini-mini class reunion took place during February's Athena Film Festival. **Sheila Gordon, Francine (Frankie) Stein, Linda Sweet, Lois Lempel Weinroth, and Susan Welber Youdovin** enjoyed snacking and chatting in The Diana Center café before viewing the opening film, *Belle*, a very interesting feminist take on a mixed-race woman raised in an upper-class British family in the late 18th century.

After practicing psychiatry for 44 years, **Anna Zagoloff** will retire at the end of May. She says that while she'll miss the rewarding work with patients,

she won't miss "the cascading paperwork that has blossomed over the years." She's looking forward to the wedding of her daughter, Sasha, in late June at Minneapolis's Guthrie Theater. Sasha is an assistant professor of clinical psychology (working with children and adolescents) at the University of Minnesota. Anna still relishes her volunteer work as a Central Park Conservancy guide and enjoys playing bridge. With more time available, she anticipates going to more national tournaments.

Camilla Trinchieri, pen name Camilla Crespi for the numerous mystery novels she has published in Italian and English, read on February 25 from her latest, *The Breakfast Club Murder*, at the Corner Bookstore in Manhattan. Also this year, she and her husband are belatedly celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary in Sicily. Plus she's teaching a two-week creative writing course in Florence and doing a monthlong tour promoting *The Truth About Billy*, written as Camilla Trinchieri and being published in Italy in May.

Our officers have created a class council cochaired by **Pearl Sternschuss Vogel** (psvogel@optonline.net) and **Constance Foshay Row** (constancerow@comcast.net) to foster engagement and connections among classmates wherever they are. They envision informal events in areas like Boston; D.C.; Portland, Ore.; Florida; Los Angeles; San Francisco; etc. Please contact Connie or Pearl if you'd like to plan a get-together or have other ideas for the council.

Meantime, if you're visiting south Florida, **JoAnn (Jodi) Cohen Reiss** would love to hear from you! Send your ideas—and your e-mail address—to our officers at Barnard.class63@gmail.com. —CM

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1964

50th Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

Sadly, **Carolynn Hillman** passed away in December. Despite a fulfilling life, professionally and personally (she was an eminent psychotherapist and sex therapist), she suffered lifelong struggles with self-esteem. "Having been a fat kid who was made fun of, and a constant yo-yo dieter as an adult, I hung my entire sense of attractiveness on what the scale said," Carolynn wrote in her 1996 book, *Recovery of Your Self-Esteem*. It saddens me personally not to have known that Carolynn shared my own issues; this points out how much we can benefit at Reunion from getting to know our classmates better or perhaps for the first time.

Karen Cohen Holmes's mother, Lucy Kramer Cohen '28, is the subject of a film, *A Twentieth Century Woman: Lucy Kramer Cohen 1907-2007*, that shows her time at Barnard, her work with Franz Boas, her mathematics studies at Columbia, women's issues in the early part of the 1900s, her collaboration with her husband (Karen's father) on American Indian affairs, and then her life as a single mother widowed at 46 and raising two daughters, working in public health, and becoming an artist. It's available at lucykramercohen.com. I knew her and admired her very much.

See you at Reunion!

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1965

Anyone with ideas or willing to volunteer for our 50th reunion next year should contact **B-J Lunin-Frishberg** at bjlf65@gmail.com.

Cathy Goodwin writes that she is still living in Philadelphia with two cats and a dog. Though she still does some work on the Internet, she has become involved in animal rescue and ceramics. And, after doing a lot of speaking and taking improv classes, she has started doing stand-up comedy at open-mike sessions, with an occasional show.

Marie Friquegnon tells us that her 92-year-old husband, Raziel Abelson,

has just published a new book, *Common Sense Morality*, with Global Scholarly Publications.

The multit talented **Carol Symonds Worthey**, a classical composer, painter, and writer, has had her compositions performed by Quattro piano duo in Spain; by Grammy winner Dale Clevenger at Italian Brass Week; by pianist Helen Lin in Beijing and on a seven-city China tour; by pianist Stanley Wong in Hong Kong; and by violinist Yury Revich in Switzerland and Croatia. Her work has also had performances in Manhattan (in collaboration with Parisian sculptor Anne Ferrer) and throughout Southern California. She also received a commission from cellist Suzanne Mueller. In addition, Carol composed music for *Rescue: A True Story*, a concert about dog rescue, written and narrated by comedienne and animal activist Elayne Boosler. Carol is celebrating "34 wonderful years with Ray Korn" and has a 3-year-old grandson.

Cindy Marriott, in Plymouth, Mich., has three Scottish deerhounds, and claims "they are much easier to raise than children." One is an American Kennel Club show grand champion, another is an American Kennel Club show champion working on his grand championship, and the third is a rescue, "the clown of the outfit." Cindy's younger daughter, Brigid, is working on her MPH at the University of Kentucky, and her older daughter, Elizabeth, is finishing her PhD at the University of California at San Diego.

From our class president, **Linda Lebensold**, this medical cautionary tale: "In 2001, after I was diagnosed with osteoporosis in the lumbar spine and osteopenia in the arm and leg, I was prescribed Fosamax, which I took for about a decade, with a one-year holiday in the middle. About four years ago, I felt a sharp pain in my upper right thigh, which came and went until I realized I could not support my body weight on that leg. Last May I insisted on an MRI, which revealed an atypical femoral fracture that extended halfway across the femur. I now have a titanium rod down the length of that bone. I am nursing a similar fracture in the left femur, hoping to avoid or at least delay a second surgery. Any of you

taking Fosamax, Actonel, Boniva, or similar osteoporosis drugs should be aware that these drugs, prescribed to rebuild bone and prevent fractures, can actually cause femoral fractures because they inhibit the shedding of old bone, thus making the bone at once thicker and more brittle."

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1966

Mentors often figure in one's story, and **Janet Roach's** include John Kouwenhoven, a Barnard professor who helped define her major, American studies. "He really put a solid intellectual framework around American history, literature, and art," Janet writes from Shelter Island, N.Y. "He also taught a writing class in which each of us had to write a journal, every day." Not bad practice for a future TV producer and screenwriter. Which brings us to John Huston—yes, *that* John Huston—whom Janet met through a mutual friend. Under his guidance, she wound up sharing credit with the novelist Richard Condon for the screenplay for the 1985 film *Prizzi's Honor*. The screenplay, her first, got an Oscar nomination. By that time, she notes, the TV news shows and documentaries she had worked on had already garnered five Emmys—four for the shows, one for her individually. Nowadays on Shelter Island, a charmingly old-fashioned place off Long Island she calls "Brigadoon with ticks," Janet is writing a memoir recalling her adventures with her husband, Gordon Potts, a retired neuroradiologist, in a remote area of his native New Zealand. She also enjoys his three children and six grandchildren. "They call me Granny Janny until I'm stern with them," she says. "Then it's Granite Janet."

Not surprisingly, grannies of every stripe figure in our class notes. **Nanci Weisz Healy** writes from New Jersey

that she is "enchanted and delighted" by her 3-year-old granddaughter, Isa, whose voice occupies 18 saved messages on Nanci's phone. While Isa lives "on the opposite side of the country" from Nanci's horse-country home in Whitehouse Station (her horse lives considerably closer), they communicate via Skype and iPad. Nanci also sees Isa four times yearly, and says she is "grateful I can still crawl around the floor" with her.

Cheryl Shaffer Greene became a first-time grandmother on December 21, when her daughter, Rebecca, gave birth to Bayla Rose Wolman-Greene. "I hope she goes to Barnard!" Cheryl writes.

Susan Applebaum Milstein has lived in Portland, Ore., since 2010, after retiring as chief information officer and chief learning officer at a national home health-care firm based in New Jersey. She and her husband, Barney, moved to Portland "to be near our wonderful grandson (now 6) and his terrific parents," she writes. Susan is also the new president of the board of directors of Lift Urban Portland, a nonprofit organization that provides food and wellness programs to local residents with limited resources. Susan also helped start the Barnard Club of Portland, which she reports is more than 190 members strong.

We're sad to report the loss of our classmate **Barbara Reich Gluck** in January. Barbara was an associate professor and assistant chair of the English department at Baruch College, where she helped found the college literary journal and received an excellence award for teaching. Among her many interests was British and modern Irish literature. Barbara's published work includes *Beckett and Joyce: Friendship and Fiction*. Our condolences to her family.

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1967

Alice Kyhl Brocoum is happily retired and living in Portland, Ore., with her husband, Steve. They downsized to an in-city condo when they moved from Las Vegas three years ago. They find Portland a cultural Mecca, but also close to Mt. Hood and the coast. They get around by bicycle and streetcar and explore the West with their Airstream trailer. They recently returned from a fascinating month in Yellowstone National Park.

Barbara Crampton McGregor and her husband, David, live in Kew Gardens, Queens, in a four-building apartment complex, which is also home to their oldest daughter, Jane, and her husband, Tom, and Barbara's 10-year-old grandson, Seamus. Middle daughter, Rachel, who graduated from Harvard in 2000, is a director at ING bank. Their youngest daughter, Susan, followed her sister to Harvard, graduating in 2005, and is now an assistant professor at the Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia. David retired in December from Cooper, Robertson & Partners, architects and urban planners, and is studying water-resource issues at Columbia's Earth Sciences Institute. Barbara worked in journalism and city government after graduation, and later worked in arts fund-raising. At Barnard, she took studio-art courses, and this habit of attending art classes continued over the years. Family commitments intervened, but in the past four years, she has started to study studio art again. "For me, a Midwestern girl from the Chicago suburbs, Barnard was the transforming experience I had hoped for. I only wish I could have had the time and energy to take even better advantage of all the fabulous opportunities our college and city had to offer!"

Eva Mayer writes that she loves retirement and can't believe this is already her 10th year out of teaching middle school. Time is filled with Learning in Retirement classes, a local offering in Stamford, Conn., and fairly frequent trips to New York for museums, theatre, and concerts. Travel is another big part of her life, and she is planning to go to Berlin and Russia this fall. Last summer she visited Paris and southern Switzerland, where her

family has a house. She managed to visit classmate **Beatrice Kahn Birnbaum** there. In the past decade, Eva has been to Botswana, Costa Rica, Peru, South Africa, Tanzania, and more. "I better get in as much as I can while I can still get around easily."

Susan Shih Riehl has also been happily retired for two years. Last year she was a master gardener apprentice, working in an experimental garden and orchard that yielded 5,000 pounds of produce for a food bank. Husband Hank pulls her into home remodeling projects. "I now have a beautiful kitchen with a gas stove that cranks up to 22,000 BTUs for real wok cooking." Older son Matt is an attorney in Rawlins, Wyo. Younger son Peter is a surety bond underwriter in Santa Monica, Calif. Susan and Hank live in Lone Tree, Colo., a fairly new city that has grown up around them in the 17 years they have lived here. "We can walk to the light rail that takes us to Coors Field to watch the Rockies play baseball. Next to the light rail is a brand-new Kaiser health-care facility, so we can also walk to our medical care. Next month, we finally get a Trader Joe's."

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1968

Lois Schwartzberg Goodman shared sad and good news. Her husband, Dr. John Goodman, died from cancer this past July. She and John had been working full time—he as a psychiatrist, and Lois as a gynecologist—in the Boston area. She writes, "It's been difficult and I'm still trying to adjust." On a happier note, Lois reports that their two daughters live in Brooklyn; each has two children and an interesting career. Amy is a documentary filmmaker working in TV, and Jeanne is a child and adolescent psychiatrist with a private practice in Brooklyn Heights. Lois adds that while she's not attended any reunions, and feels a bit "disconnected" from the Barnard experience, she would love to meet with Barnard alumnae when visiting New York City.

After 30 years as an editor and publisher, **Laura Geringer Bass** announced that Laura Geringer Books, a literary imprint of children's and YA books, is now partnering with Shannon Associates, an art agency representing 200 artists and writers around the globe to provide editorial development services to aspiring novelists and picture-book authors. Specializing in discovering and representing debut writers, Laura also works with established authors and artists seeking help with a specific story project and representation for that project and welcomes submissions from Barnard students and graduates. Her own published children's books include: *A Three Hat Day*, illustrated by Arnold Lobel; *Sign of the Qin*; and most recently, *Boom Boom Go Away*, a picture book illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline; she is working on a new novel, *The Girl With More Than One Heart*.

Linda Rosen Garfunkel and her husband, Richard, have also become proud grandparents. Sophie Mira was born in November to their son, Jon, and his wife, Jocelyn. Linda loves retirement and brings her energy and organizational skills to south Florida by starting a baby-boomers club in their development.

Jane Wallison Stein, a project development and finance lawyer, heads up her firm's energy and infrastructure projects team. She writes, "My historic struggle with work-life balance continues. Energy projects fill my working days (and nights), and five (!) grandchildren, choral singing, golf, theatre, concerts, and travel (and Torah study!) fill up whatever remaining time there is. Spouse Hugh and I are still both working, and challenged by work, so retirement is somewhere out there, but still seems a ways off."

A personal note: Jeff Tannenbaum and I happily celebrated the marriage of his daughter, Ellen, to Michael this past fall. Ellen is a trauma therapist serving foster care and Michael is a chef overseeing food production at Chicago's Community Kitchens.

Thanks for being in touch. Please keep it up.

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1969

45th Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

Katherine Knowles says she's still living in Eugene, Ore., "with my beloved German shepherd and my abundant garden. I completed a yearlong permaculture apprenticeship this summer, and my garden rewards me well. I am attempting to become a beekeeper, and have hopes that the swarms I installed in the hives this summer will emerge healthy and happy in the spring. I continue my work as a massage and aquatic therapist," Kathie writes. "And I teach at the community college. My grandson enrolled in the University of Oregon music school this fall and is living with me until he finds his wings. I have three children, a son in San Francisco who is an artist, a son in Portland who is the father of my grandson and my amazing 4-year-old granddaughter who keeps him completely occupied, and a daughter who is a journalist in D.C. I dance flamenco and Cuban salsa, which keeps me happy!"

Another classmate who is far away, but leading a life that is just as eventful, writes from Copenhagen. "A retirement date isn't on my calendar, and I can't envision when it will be," says **Martha Gaber Abrahamsen**. "Last year, 2013, was a very busy year, with the publication of a big, beautiful book about Gottlieb Bindesbøll, the 19th-century architect behind Copenhagen's Thorvaldsen Museum, and a small but equally beautiful book about the newly refurbished Trusteeship Council Chamber designed by Finn Juhl at U.N. headquarters. My biggest project was translating over 1,000 descriptions of objects on display in the David Collection's Islamic collection. Now they're all in a handheld tablet, along with an audio guide, in both Danish and English. The David Collection is my favorite client and also my oldest one here in Denmark; I have been the museum's only translator into English for 20 years. My favorite summer pastime is still rowing, though I didn't meet my usual 1,000 km goal last season. Construction in Copenhagen's harbor has made long rowing trips into the city difficult in anything but calm weather. Here's hoping for a sunny, windless

summer." Martha also notes that she is looking forward to upcoming trips with friends to operas in Dresden and Berlin, along with performances in Copenhagen and in Malmö, Sweden.

Seana Anderson has travel news too, along with word that she will be at Reunion, thanks to a slightly rescheduled meeting. She adds, "On a bright note, my wife and I went to Paris together for the first time, facilitated by our travel agent **Linda Krakower Greene**. We will go back in June on a client trip paid for by the American Trust for the British Library." Seana and wife Kit enjoyed a Christmas visit from Seana's college roommate, **Carol Mon Lee**. They also recently expanded their family to include 3-year-old Kingston, who will join them and two other grandsons in the "two-family home we converted from an old carriage house in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, now the hippest place to be in all of New York City."

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1970

Barbara Trainin Blank's first book, *What to Do About Mama: A Guide to Caring for Aging Family Members*, has been published. Coauthored by Barbara G. Matthews, the book contains personal stories and insights by several caregivers, including the two authors. It is published by Sunbury Press and available at Amazon, and on the Nook and Kindle.

Charline Simmons is currently a holistic psychiatrist in Oakland, Calif., where she has been practicing for 25 years. She specializes in somatically based psychotherapy, psychospiritual awareness, and meditation instruction. She uses an integrative approach to her work, including traditional and alternative methodology.

The two design magazines for which **Judith Polan** wrote for about eight years folded in late 2012, and Judy floundered professionally for about a year. Recently she was recruited by Houzz.com, a popular online design magazine (12 million readers),

to write for them. She is their designated 20th-century-design expert. She reports that it's, in a way, her dream job, and she is generally having great fun with it all. Some of her recent articles include "Splendor in the Bath" and "Milo Baughman: The Cary Grant of Furniture Design." She also blogs about modern design on her blog *Mad for Mod*. She continues to live in artsy Northampton, Mass., with her husband of 38 years, Michael Schonbach, who graduated from Brandeis in 1970. He owns his own business, Still Records After All These Years, selling collectible phonograph records.

Bonnie Fox Sirower has embarked on her "retirement career," although she is still involved in fund-raising work. She has just been certified to teach mind/body water fitness—yoga, Tai Chi, Qi Gong, and Pilates in the water. She teaches twice a week and was an instructor January 17–24 on a Royal Caribbean cruise aboard the *Voyager of the Seas*, sailing from Tampa to Belize, Costa Maya, Cozumel, and Grand Cayman.

Risa Zwerling lives in St. Louis with her husband, Mark Wrighton, who is the chancellor of Washington University. She wrote: "We've been leading the university for 18-plus years, and it's been wonderful for me to live on a university campus and never graduate! After all, I was a commuter for most of my time at Barnard. I spent most of my professional career as a social worker developing employee assistance programs, and managing mental health programs. I've been out of touch with Barnard for many years and am happy to reconnect."

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1971

For those of you who are not on our e-mail list, I will begin by repeating my own big news. My husband and I sold our warehouse, and, scrambling to vacate for the new owners, merged our printing company of 40 years, Anaconda Press, with nearby, much-larger Linemark Printing, in a "tuck-in" sale. The process

of transitioning—selling, recycling, and storing everything else; and the seemingly endless details involved with winding down a business of this longevity—is taking much longer than I could have imagined. But retirement in Vieques is almost in sight. Our son's family has moved in with us, and while we're crowded, we are over the moon to have our little grandson, Lucas, with us every day. What a joy!

Joy Horner Greenberg is emerging from a tough year of financial difficulties and the loss of her brother-in-law and a close friend, both of whom had served as father figures for her three boys since she lost her husband, Chuck, in 1995. Happily, Joy recently reconnected with a man she knew long ago when they were both married, and a new romance is afoot.

Susan D'Andrea Lee is now working in D.C., for the office of financial research at the Treasury, a new office set up under the Dodd-Frank financial reform legislation. She also volunteers to give tours of the Treasury building, so keep her in mind the next time you're in Washington. Meanwhile, she travels home to New Jersey on weekends, where husband, Rick, retired, "is polishing his Harley for the spring season."

Carmen Ramos Ostow has begun work on a new post-master's certificate program at NYU's social work school, in spirituality and social work practice. She is still working, and enjoys being grandmother to a great 2-year-old granddaughter. "She keeps me spry. Ain't life grand!"

Congrats to **Mary Lane**, whose oldest child is graduating from Brown with a job as a computer software engineer at Google. Mary's twin daughters are finishing their sophomore years at Kenyon College and Washington University in St. Louis.

We extend our sincere condolences to **Kathryn Zufall**, whose mother, Kathryn (Kay) Schwindt Zufall '48, died of Alzheimer's in January. Kay Zufall was an educator, whose many accomplishments included the cofounding of a community health center dedicated to serving the uninsured and underserved, and the cocreation of Play-Doh. Kathy works part-time in general internal medicine, plays chamber music (violin), performs regularly, and has joined the ranks of grandmothers thanks to the arrival of her first grandson.

And, finally! The B '71 oral history collection officially enters the Barnard archives this spring, with all 17 interviews from 2011. **Michelle Patrick** and her husband, Robert Solomon, are conducting three new interviews, which will be added by fall of 2014. We need your help to continue work on this project. E-mail bcvoicesinc@gmail.com, or call **Katherine Brewster** at 212.222.9859 to assist with promotion, marketing, grant writing or fund-raising.

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1972

Janet Huseby lives on the West Coast and works with high school seniors on their college admissions essays. She writes, "My mother, Jane Brunstetter Forsthoff '45, suggested I send in my news, so I am complying. In June, I left Berkeley High School with its 3,300 students and thousands of parents and guardians, where I had been working for the past nine years as the outreach and volunteer coordinator. On my way out, I published the third edition of *The Berkeley Book of College Essays*. The book is a fund-raiser for the Berkeley High School College and Career Center. It is available to anyone with a senior about to write an essay or just intrigued by an urban high school, which, at its best and worst, reminds me of Barnard in the early '70s, when life was a little grittier. I am continuing as a freelance writer, specializing, at least for this season, in working with kids on their college essays."

Martha Fox Kramer writes, "I'm at Brown Harris Stevens selling residential real estate. My husband bought the trademark Mark Cross, a name our generation probably remembers. I'm helping him with international sales and PR in my spare time. After spending most of my life in the fashion industry, it's been fun to be involved again. We have one perfect grandson, who gives us a lot of joy—my husband's son's son. I've been in touch with my roommates, Rhonda Ringler Cutler '73, **Donna Tonkon Punim**, and **Jeanette Wasserstein**. It always seems like no time has passed when we see

Revealing treasures from performers' lives

Barbara Cohen-Stratynier '72

As the curator of exhibitions for the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Barbara Cohen-Stratynier '72 gets to peek behind the curtain into the lives of some of the world's most prominent artists and performers. As an example, for a 2009 exhibition on actress Katharine Hepburn—the library owns a collection of her papers—she pored through personal snapshots, letters from Cary Grant and Humphrey Bogart, and pages of handwritten rehearsal notes. One of the most fascinating items was a working script for a Shakespeare play covered with drawings of stairs and platforms. “As Hepburn grew older, she did more live Shakespeare, and she worried about moving on the stage in the production's large period costumes,” she explains. Concerned about tripping, the actress was making notes to herself about navigating the set. Such finds offer something “very intimate,” Cohen-Stratynier says.

A Renaissance studies major at Barnard, Cohen-Stratynier worked as a costume designer and constructor—she once embroidered a parasol for Julie Christie—before arriving in 1994 at the performing arts library, one of the New York Public Library system's four special research centers. Located at the Lincoln Center Plaza, the library has in its collection several million items related to the performing arts. Along with Hepburn's papers, the library also owns John Cage music manuscripts and a collection of Gypsy Rose Lee's papers, including a notebook where she listed every outfit she ever wore on television.

Cohen-Stratynier has curated exhibitions on a variety of subjects, from a sweeping look at women who designed sets, costumes, and lighting for theatre, dance, and opera in the last century, to a showcase of the work of commercial photographer Florence Vandamm, who is often credited with inventing the modern headshot. The most fulfilling part of her work is unearthing information on little-known women who have been critical to the arts. “It's so thrilling to find pioneers and bring them to other people's attention,” she says. —*Jennifer Altmann*



Photograph by Lynn Saville

was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's cancer of the cervix just around the time of the earthquake in San Francisco. I underwent chemo and radiation, and my husband and my three children supported me.” Peggy recalls reading a comment from Jeanette Wasserstein in a previous column about the need for regular mammograms, and she wants to remind us to “also seek second opinions when deciding on an oncologist and/or a surgeon. You have every right to do that.”

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1973

Lucinda Laird became the dean of the American Cathedral in Paris in 2013. She had spent the last 15 years in Louisville, Ky., as rector of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church there. “I am loving Paris, and the American Cathedral is an exciting and creative community that has energized me. Who knew that I'd have such an exciting new chapter in my life at this point? If any class members find themselves in Paris, come on by. **Catherine Dwyer** has already paid a visit,” she writes.

Beverly Savage has been the executive director of Hudson County, N.J., Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for the past eight years. CASA is a national nonprofit that recruits and trains volunteers to advocate for foster children in the family court system with the goal of a safe and permanent home for each child. “I know my efforts have changed the lives of many children, but there are also many children we have not been able to help,” she writes.

Jean (Gina) Sharpe invites anyone interested in meditation or Buddhist thought to the New York Insight Meditation Center in Chelsea, where she is a cofounder and guiding teacher. Gina was formerly a litigator with a large New York firm and general counsel of a mergers and acquisitions company. Now retired, she has “sat” several silent retreats, some as long as three months, and teaches in meditation centers all over the U.S.

Susan Laufer Bee had a solo show of paintings at A.I.R. Gallery in DUMBO,

each other!”

Elaine Johnson James is a partner at the Florida business-law firm Berger Singerman and has been appointed to the board of directors of Planned Parenthood of South Florida and the Treasure Coast.

Toby Levy writes, “**Jamienne Studley** has temporarily left the Bay Area to take a position as deputy undersecretary for education in the Obama administration. I attended a heartfelt send-off party for her, where numerous colleagues praised her leadership and mentorship at Public Advocates.” Toby also updates us on what she's been doing. “My architecture

practice, Levy Design Partners, has followed the economy from bust to boom. I only hope I can follow all those resolutions I made in the slower times to do better work at a saner pace. The good times have also yielded funding for the renovation of the South Park, a public park I both live [near] and work on. The new design is being created by talented local landscape architect David Fletcher. It will be great to see the project come to life in the next two years.”

Margaret (Peggy) Ludwig sends her best to all classmates and writes, “It is now my 12th year of being a cancer survivor. I

Brooklyn, in April, titled *Susan Bee, Doomed to Win: Paintings from the Early 1980s*.

Our classmate **Kathy Mai** writes: "After a two-year battle with cancer, **Marcia (Marcy) Glanz** passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her loving family on January 5. She endured the disease throughout with much grace, courage, and dignity. During those two years, there were periods of remission when all seemed well, and she was able to live life fully by traveling around the world and hosting parties at home. Those of you who attended our 40th reunion will remember her during one of those cancer-free periods. Her radiant face features prominently on the cover of the reunion video. She leaves behind her husband, Marion Stewart, and sons Jeremy (wife Jaclyn) and Josh (partner Madeline). *The New York Times* wrote an article about Marcy on January 13, describing how she wanted her last month to be a monthlong farewell party. And it was, "mixed frivolity and friendship, laughter and tears," according to the article. "Many of us die too soon and have no chance to say good-bye, or we have a long, ugly, painful demise," her husband told *The New York Times*. "Hers was neither of those."

Our condolences to Marcy's family and to the family of **Wendy Greenberg**, professor emeritus at Penn State University, Lehigh Valley campus, who passed away on August 28, 2013. —JH

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1974

40th Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

Carolyn Yalkut's new play, *Everywoman*, a "comedy about catastrophe," debuted in a staged reading at the Performing Arts Center in Albany in April. The creative team was from the Women's Action Movement (WAM) Theatre in the Berkshires.

And a note from Rebecca Mermelstein (CC '01), who writes in about the Class

of '74 correspondent, who is also her mother: "My parents, **Catherine Blank Mermelstein** and Erwin Mermelstein (CC '74) celebrated their 40th anniversary on January 6, having met their freshman year at Barnard-Columbia. They celebrated with their four children—Rebecca, Jake (CC '03), Joe, and Josh, daughter-in-law Simona Shubov, and daughter-in-law-to-be Alanna Chait (CC '04)."

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1975

Janet Snyder is working for the County of Hawaii board of water supply on the big island. She lives with her husband, Art, two golden retrievers, two cockatiels, and five chickens in Hāmākua, in the rural village of Hakalau, with views of the Pacific and Mauna Kea. She was also elected president of the Hawaii chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Betty Iseri Yee writes that one daughter is in college at San Diego State University, while the other is in high school and about to apply to college. They took a family trip to the Florida theme parks before both girls went on their way. She also saw freshman floor mate **Suzanne Perrin Ollila**, who lives in Tallahassee and works for the state of Florida as an economist. "Another freshman floor mate I saw recently was **Palma Torrisi**. Her daughter, Rosara, also a Barnard alumna, got married over Labor Day weekend in New York." Having retired as a financial advisor, Betty lives in Huntington Beach, Calif., is on the board of a nonprofit music education group, and volunteers at her daughter's high school.

Susan Weintraub Leibtag is living in Israel, working for the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, and running an online resource center. She and her husband, Bernie, welcomed a new grandson in December. They are now the very proud grandparents of nine boys and one girl.

Sandra Smith Feldman attended the New Year's Day inauguration of New York Mayor Bill de Blasio, Comptroller Scott Stringer, and Public Advocate Letitia

James as Stringer's guest. "We got to see the Clintons, Governor Cuomo, Senator Schumer, and Barnard alumna Cynthia Nixon '88," Feldman writes.

Joan Silverman McMahon retired from teaching biology at DeWitt Clinton High School in 2011 and moved from Rockland County to Columbia County in upstate New York.

Regina Mullahy Schneider writes that "last year was a very busy and happy time for me and my husband, Robert Schneider (CC '75)." Oldest son James was married in Philadelphia and daughter Meg graduated from the University of Pennsylvania. "Our first grandchild, Elizabeth, was born in Houston to our son John (CC '07) and daughter-in-law Stephanie Pahler '05. Her parents have already promised us that they will be sending her to back to us and the Columbia campus for the class of 2034—school to be fought over later."

Finally, your correspondent reports that she is the newly elected chair of the Village of Mamaroneck Arts Council in Mamaroneck, N.Y., and has just started the college-research process with her 16-year-old daughter. Of course, Barnard is on the list.

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1976

Elizabeth Neiditz Benedict writes that she loves working with students around the world via Skype and helping them with college and graduate school application essays through her company, Don't Sweat the Essay.

Georgina Marrero, an independent writer/researcher, reports: "I made a presentation in November for the Columbia University seminar on the history of Columbia University. My presentation was titled, 'Bali in Her Soul: A Portrait of Jane Belo.' Jane Belo attended Barnard as a sophomore during the 1923–24 academic year. With the assistance of anthropologist and Barnard professor Margaret Mead '23 and other Western researchers on Bali, Belo's final work, *Traditional Balinese*

Culture, was published by Columbia University Press."

Jeanine Barone writes, "I started my own corporation last year called the Land of J, Inc. I design, develop, and produce creative products that appeal to travelers, women, and kids. I finished my first children's chapter book and am looking for either a literary agent or a publisher. I'm writing my second feature-length script (a comedy). I'm working on my flash fiction, which I hope to get published as a collection. I'm mentoring a Barnard senior who likes working with a serial entrepreneur who's also a writer. I also continue to write travel and food articles for everyone from *National Geographic Traveler* to *The Wall Street Journal*."

Deborah Krupp Ketai writes, "Life is good! Chrissie and I have been together for 21 years and will celebrate our 6th (legal!) anniversary in May. After contracting with UnitedHealth Group IT for two years, I recently accepted a full-time position as program manager for Enterprise System Operating Controls, a strategic initiative."

Vivian Kafantaris writes, "My daughter, Allison Hand, is looking forward to attending Barnard in the fall. Her twin sister, Rachel, has opted for a small-college-town experience outside of New York City. I see a few more years of interesting juggling ahead!"

Patricia Valentine reports she has accepted a position at the Neighborhood Design Center as an arborist and street-tree specialist. She writes, "I am the project coordinator for the Bradford Pear Tree Replacement Program. I recently completed a master's of professional studies in geographic information systems from University of Maryland, Baltimore County."

Marilyn Merker Goldman writes that she and her husband of 30 years, Rob Goldman, who graduated from MIT in 1977, have been Milwaukee residents for 24 years. Marilyn says, "I have been a professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin focusing on basic science research, but the NIH funding crises have finally got me. I will be leaving the college and my research career some time next year. My son, Dan, 29, is a PhD student in biophysics/chemistry at Berkeley, and

my daughter, Rebecca, 25, is a sailor, yoga teacher, and wilderness guide. I've talked to **Suzanne Moyer Brooks**, **Paula Glickman**, and **Jean Grosser** since my beloved 91-year-old father died in November. For me, there is really nothing that can ever replace the friendships made during my time at Barnard. These friends remain my fiercest supporters and closest confidantes after all these years."

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1977

On a personal note, in January, my beloved godmother Kathryn Schwindt Zufall '48, my mother's classmate, passed away. She was a special person in my mother's life and my own. This winter, my husband, Barton Sacks, two younger sons, Seth and Gideon, and I traveled to Thailand and Cambodia to meet our eldest son, Paz, who had just completed his term of service with the Peace Corps in Vanuatu in the South Pacific. We had a wonderful "destination reunion," and now all five of us are back at home. I'm savoring it while it lasts!

Here's what I've heard from classmates recently: **Miranda Warren Sacharin** writes, "After 20 years in the Bay Area, I moved back to New York City in 2007 when my husband, Ken Sacharin (CC '79), took a job here. Our daughter, Emily, graduated from Columbia (summa cum laude!) in 2009 and received her master's in Victorian literature from Oxford in 2011. In 2009, my life took a radical course change when Ken was diagnosed with a rare brain-stem tumor. I received invaluable support and advice from an online forum during this challenging time, and, in hopes of passing these benefits on to others, I revived a long-defunct in-person acoustic neuroma support group in Manhattan. Three years on, the group has the highest turnouts of any in the country, and my coleader and I received an award for excellence in volunteering at the Acoustic Neuroma Association symposium in L.A. this past summer. I've also been volunteering at a crisis hotline for close to two years and am studying for a master's in disability studies at CUNY. After living in Hell's Kitchen for six years, we moved up to Washington Heights last summer. We love

living up here!"

Poppy Grandler Orchier e-mailed to say, "After working part time at Bloomingdale's for a few years, I finally left to pursue something more fulfilling. I became involved with the Obama campaign and had a very exciting few weeks working for Women for Obama. The atmosphere was electrifying. It got me thinking about what I wanted to do next. I've been volunteering one day a week at Planned Parenthood of NYC and absolutely love it. It's like nothing I've ever done before, but I know this is where I want to be, working for an organization that stands for a woman's right to access safe and affordable health care. On the family side, my husband, Jonathan (CC '78), is still commuting back and forth from his job at a hedge fund in Chicago, and our daughter, Anne, who graduated from the University of Chicago in 2009, just moved from Chicago to L.A. to pursue a career in film. He misses having her there during the week, but we're looking forward to many trips out west now!"

Beverly Godwin Yates told me, "This month I was elected to serve on the board of directors of the American Turkish Association of D.C. ATA's mission is to promote better understanding between Turkish and American communities. In high school, I was an American Field Service exchange student to Turkey. While at Barnard, I took all four Turkish classes offered by Columbia and have been involved with Turkish communities in the U.S."

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1978

Heard from Milt the Dove again. "Let me tell you something about Cyndi," he squawked, referring to **Cyndi Stivers**, with whom he has deigned to live ever since Cyndi and her husband, John House, opened a window and invited him in some years ago. "Just when I thought things were settling down, she does *this*." Milt was referring to how Cyndi has left her relatively recent editor-in-chief position at AOL to become senior vice president at Tina Brown's latest venture, Tina Brown Live Media, a woman-centered conference

business that is taking global the annual star-studded Women in the World Summit. It is also creating conferences, forums, arts events, and debates around the world. Cyndi, the second in command, has been charged with, among other things, leading the company's digital strategy. "We're figuring out how to make the world better for women and girls," Cyndi told me while rushing to prepare for the April 3 summit at Lincoln Center. "Yeah, but what about birds and birdlets?" griped the normally mild-mannered Milt the Dove.

Cathy Horyn, longtime chief fashion critic of *The New York Times*, has resigned from the paper for personal reasons. *The Times* was reluctant to let her go, citing "the 1,123 bylined pieces she has written in the past 15 years" and "the promising designers she discovered, the unoriginal ones she dismissed, the talents that she celebrated in ways that illuminated their creative process, for a readership that ranged from the executive offices of LVMH to the bargain shoppers at Barneys Warehouse," and calling her "the preeminent fashion critic of her generation." She is continuing to work on a book, to be published by Rizzoli, on the history of *The New York Times* fashion coverage.

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1979

35th Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

For those of you who may be visiting Geneva in March, you are invited to attend **Ilise Levy Feitshans's** presentation of her doctoral thesis. You go, girl!

Laurie Aron is also getting more educated. She writes, "For the 35th anniversary, I'm auditing a class at Barnard—philosophy. So much fun. I'm much more open to thinking and less beholden to received wisdom now. My career has had interesting twists and turns. I worked in communications, financial analysis, and retail management. I was married in 1982, and when we decided to have children, I started working for myself. For 15 years, I was a freelance writer and then a business reporter.

When my youngest was between schools for second grade, I taught her at home, the most fun I've had as an occupation. I pursued other home-based small businesses, and around 2005 I started working on collage. I was represented by the Rhonda Schaller Studio in Chelsea, and showed my work all over the country. We have three children: Adam, 26, Rachel, 24, who graduated from Bennington, and Paula, 18, a freshman at Clark."

During 2013, **Diana Thompson** earned a certificate in indigenous studies from Columbia University's Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity. Diana was honored to be a part of a very select group of students from five different continents. The group enjoyed lectures from many world-renowned academics and leaders on Columbia's campus, at the United Nations, and in the Mohawk Territory.

Independent journalist **Katherine Goncharoff Heires** writes that she continues to report on business and technology trends.

Dinah Surh recently became a Food Network *Chopped* Champion on an amateur episode of *Chopped* in February. Her husband, Shane Triano (SEAS), joined her in a karaoke song on the show and appeared with her mom, Kisoo, who inspired her cooking skills. She also became a first-time grandma to adorable grandson Nathan.

In government news, in December 2013, **Chai Feldblum** was confirmed by the U.S. Senate to a second term serving on the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Chai was first nominated to the post of EEOC commissioner by President Barack Obama in September 2009. The president renominated her in May 2013.

Larissa Shmailo's new collection of poetry, *#specialcharacters*, launched at the Association of Writers and Writing Programs conference in Seattle in February, and launches in New York City at the Bowery Poetry Club in May. Looking forward to seeing you all at our 35th reunion!!

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Maria Dolores Cimini was named a Champion of Change by the White House for her work promoting equity in science, technology, engineering, and

math (STEM) fields for young people, particularly young women, with disabilities. Cimini is assistant director for prevention and program evaluation at the University at Albany counseling center, and adjunct clinical professor in the university's School of Education. Cimini also promotes STEM access through her work as cochair of the American Psychological Association's Women with Disabilities in STEM Education Project.

1980

Sheera Lopata Sobin sends sad news of the death of **Bracha Halbfinger Tal**: "Bracha was my classmate and my suite mate, but more than anything else, she was my friend. After graduating Barnard, Bracha moved to Israel and received her law degree from Hebrew University. She worked as an attorney for the office of the ombudsman. She helped citizens who had disputes with the authorities, and she eventually became head of her division. Bracha and I maintained contact with each other through the years, and my husband and I always made sure to visit on our periodic trips to Israel. I miss her dearly. She is survived by her mother; three siblings; her husband, Eli, a pediatric dentist; and five children." Our thoughts are with them; she's gone too soon.

I promised you news of fearless leader **Paula Franzese** but I'd need a special edition of the magazine to fit it all in. She is the Peter W. Rodino Professor of Law at Seton Hall University in New Jersey, where in 2013 she also received the Woman of Achievement Award from the N.J. Federation of Women's Clubs. Previous awards and elections include becoming a fellow of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers, a fellow of the American Bar Foundation, the Sir Thomas More Medal of Honor, the YWCA Woman of Influence Award, the Women Lawyers Association

Trailblazer Award, and the New Jersey State Bar Foundation's Medal of Honor, as well as, in 2011, the National Council on Governmental Ethics Laws (COGEL) Award, in honor of her "significant, demonstrable, and positive contributions to the fields of campaign finance, elections, ethics, freedom of information, and lobbying over a significant period of time." Nationally renowned for her excellence in law teaching, she is the unprecedented 10-time recipient of the Student Bar Association's Professor of the Year Award, has been named an exemplary teacher by the American Association of Higher Education, and was ranked top law professor in New Jersey by the New Jersey Law Journal. All of which you could probably read in *What the Best Law Teachers Do*, forthcoming from Harvard University Press, in which she is featured. She teaches in workshops and colloquia all over the U.S. and serves as vice-chair of the legal education section of the American Bar Association. She has also published extensively, including the casebook *Property Law and the Public Interest* and *A Short Happy Guide to Property*, one of a collection of first-year review books for Westlaw. She has spearheaded ethics reform initiatives on behalf of three governors and serves as ethics advisor to state and local governments across the country. This is my short happy guide to Professor Paula Franzese. I can't say more because she takes my breath away.

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1981

Exciting news! **Wendy White** has been selected by the South Florida Chamber Ensemble as its season-four artist in residence. Wendy will make the musical performances a "happening" as she paints while the music plays.

We also heard from New York City, where **Nancy Freeman-Carroll** celebrates creativity in the form of a gigantic snowman who keeps her and her two boys entertained. At the rate the white stuff has fallen here, we might be able to see the snowman at Reunion in June.

The Class of '81 enjoyed a mini-reunion at Sardi's on Saturday, February 8, 2014. Classmates enjoyed the theatrical environment and the fun opportunity to catch up in between the snowstorms in the heart of Broadway. Those in attendance included: **Serena Castelli, Melissa Hubsher-Freedman, Holly Kisthard Jerome, Amy Faust Miller, Katherine Moore, Deborah Mullin, Jane Schapiro, Nicole Lowen Vianna**, and Wendy White. We all look forward to many more opportunities to reunite in the future.

Nancy Freeman-Carroll
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1982

Greetings, classmates. **Nehama Dresner** writes: "I continue to live and work in Chicago in women's mental health, and hope to become more involved in integrated behavioral-health care as it evolves. Although my mother, Ruth Rapp Dresner '52, and my three sisters are all Barnard graduates, none of my children has gone that route. It's been NYU for two of them, and Boston University for one. I keep in regular contact with my beloved roommates from 620 116th Street—**Elana Kanter, Alise Reicin**, and **Amy Roth**. Best to all of you. I treasure my years at Barnard more and more deeply as the years pass."

Alison Robbins Gould updates us that she "has a college advising business that specializes in getting students into the Ivy League and top-tier colleges" and that she runs two-day SAT workshops monthly. Her daughter, Danica, graduated from Columbia last June, and her son, Griffin, graduated two years ago. Her youngest, Devon, was recently accepted to Emory. Alison attended law school after Barnard and she is excited to be moving to the city next summer, when she will become an empty nester.

Josefina Almanzar Morales shares that she is keeping up on RN work. Her daughter, Maritza, 27, is an accountant. Her son, Joseph, 20, is pursuing a military career. Josefina will be celebrating her 30th wedding anniversary this year in August. Congratulations, Josefina!

More congratulations go out to **Josephine**

Miou Lee and **Lisa Abelow Hedley**, who both inform us that their daughters Elizabeth and Lilyclaire will be attending Barnard in the fall.

Susan Cebula Tone writes, "I just returned from a Barnard Club of Portland event, featuring a presentation by Philippa Ribbink '85, where I met other Barnard women working and living in Oregon. I married in 2002, and I've been living on the north Oregon coast since 1999, selling real estate and enjoying hiking and kayaking."

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1983

Laura Hansen Huemer was married in September 2013 to artist/author and legendary film-creature concept designer Wayne Barlowe (*Avatar*, *Harry Potter*, etc.) and lives in Millburn, N.J. They each have two children from previous marriages, including Laura's 25-year-old daughter, Nancy Huemer '10, a political science major, and her 22-year-old son, Jackson, who is studying political science at County College of Morris. Economic hardship forced Laura to sell her independent bookstore, Goldfinch Books, several years ago, and she now works as an office manager for a rapidly expanding hotel investment and development firm in New York City. Laura spends her commuting time writing screenplays with her new husband and hopes to get a movie made.

Mary Bingham Fisher, an attorney, and her husband, Fred (CC '84), a vascular surgeon, recently relocated to the Orlando, Fla., area from Cherry Hill, N.J. Their two daughters, Talia (CC '13) and Rebecca (CC '17), remain in New York. Talia is working in corporate communications for Starcom MediaVest Group, and Rebecca is settling in to her first year at Columbia. Mary writes that after years as an attorney in private practice and as in-house counsel in New York and New Jersey, she is looking for new opportunities in central Florida, possibly outside the legal field, and would love to connect with Barnard alumnae in the Orlando area.

Karen Heller Key reports that she was recently named executive vice president and chief operating officer of the National

Human Services Assembly, where she previously served as vice president for programs since 2007. Karen, a longtime Washingtonian, has been married for eight years to her best friend, Mark Hoelter, who is a Unitarian Universalist minister and coach to nonprofit leaders. Karen and Mark are avid amateur artists (drawing figures, drawing portraits in charcoal and pencil, and painting in pastels, the latter being their preferred medium) and ballroom dancers, and live in one of Washington, D.C.'s most vibrant urban villages, Cleveland Park.

Nancy Hoguet Tilghman lives in New York City and Long Island. She recently received her master's from Sotheby's Institute of Art and is beginning a new career at Sotheby's. Nancy previously worked as a producer for CNN until she had her third child. She then freelanced for *The New York Times* and worked for the *Huffington Post*. She has one daughter graduating from Yale, one who is a junior at Trinity College, and a third who is a sophomore at Taft School in Watertown, Conn.

Cecilia Vaisman is an associate professor of journalism at Medill-Northwestern University, and senior producer with Homelands Productions, a nonprofit journalism cooperative. She is currently developing Medill's journalism residency program in Buenos Aires and teaching two new classes (Bilingual Journalism and Storytelling and Chicago Speaks: Listening for Power and Place) that she codesigned. Cecilia lives in Chicago with her husband of 20 years, Gary Marx, an investigative reporter at *The Chicago Tribune*, and their two children, Ana, 17, and Andres, 14. Cecilia reports that she and her family have lived in many places, including Havana, Cuba, where her husband was based as a correspondent for five years, and Palo Alto during a fellowship at Stanford University.

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1984

30th Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

Alison Hanna-Helmkamp is in the U.S. Air Force, based in England and working as chief of the medical staff for

three clinics. Temporarily deployed in Afghanistan as operations there draw down, she is helping to set up military medical-school programs. Alison's oldest daughter, Kayla, 12, is an honor roll student and competitive runner. Third-grader Abby enjoys math, cheerleading, and chess. Husband Mark is holding down the home front; while not licensed to work in roadway design in the U.K., he is enjoying his tester retirement. The family has enjoyed recent trips all over the British Isles as well as to Italy, Paris, and Brussels.

Carolyn Hochstadter Dicker recently celebrated the wedding of her daughter, Michal '14, and the bar mitzvah of her son, Yehuda. She also attended the bat mitzvah of **Margo Kossof's** daughter in Israel last summer and stayed with **Zia Jaffe-Rose**.

Genine (Ginny) Lederberger BarEl currently lives in Rosh Pina, a village in the north of Israel, with her chef husband and children, ages 9, 14, and 16. They run a bed-and-breakfast in Safed called the Way Inn, which serves gourmet meals in a 200-year-old house and is expanding into a hotel/retreat center with a focus on mind-body-spirit integration. Ginny met her husband, Rony, in India and spent almost two years studying and traveling with him. Before that, she was the director of international relations at the Cameri Theatre in Tel Aviv. She moved to Israel at the age of 29 after "wrapping up the starter marriage" that she had embarked upon shortly after graduation.

Janet Olshansky reports that the Theatre for a New Audience, with which she has been involved with for almost 15 years, finally completed construction of its first home in downtown Brooklyn. Its first production was *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, directed by Julie Taymor. Janet and her husband, Jeff Morris, recently sold Insight Media, the business they started almost 25 years ago to produce and distribute educational programs for colleges. After a period of consulting, they will explore other opportunities and travel with their grown children; Madeleine graduates this spring from Vassar and Ian goes off to Dickinson College this fall.

Judith Kummer worked for New York

City in low-income housing finance and then as the housing manager at Barnard, but grad school led to ordination as a Reconstructionist rabbi. She served in New York-area pulpits for six years, but after losing her dad, moved back home to the Boston area. Since 2001, Judith has been the executive director of the Jewish Chaplaincy Council of Massachusetts and has directed the Massachusetts Board of Rabbis and the Conservative movement's conversion and intermarriage-outreach efforts. Judith creates music and rituals for the community *mikvah*, organizes interfaith dialogues, hosts large seders and dinners in her home, and enjoys organic gardening. She is grateful for her health, for family, friends, and colleagues, and for the wonderful education that Barnard provided.

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1985

Class president **Marina Metalios** recently wrote: "I'd like to report to lovers and friends of the political science department that I attended the memorial service for Professor Peter Juviler on September 20. It was touching, moving, and inspiring. Our classmate **Gopa Khandwala** also came with her mom, as they were both fans of Peter's. And Peter Juviler, in his classic and understated style, brought a glorious array of former students, devotees, and colleagues together—a last gift from this generous professor. Because of Peter I caught up with Professor Flora Davidson and saw pictures of her beautiful grandkids. I also caught up with Dennis Dalton and wife Sharron, who have resettled in Portland, Ore., to be nearer to their granddaughters and to teach at each grade-level their granddaughters are in. And I caught up with Demetrios Caraley, former head of the political science department, who looked terrific. The tributes to Peter Juviler

were spectacular, and I found myself once again grateful for the things he taught me and the optimism he radiated about the primacy of human rights and collective action to address oppression."

Rebecca Pechefsky brings best wishes for a happy new year and shares that 2013 was an exciting year for her. As a professional harpsichordist, she has been championing the music of Johann Ludwig Krebs, who was Bach's star pupil. Last year, in honor of Krebs's 300th birthday, she released a CD of his harpsichord sonatas and participated in several Krebs anniversary concerts, including two in Germany at the Robert-Schumann-Haus in Zwickau and at the Residenzschloss in Altenburg, two towns where Krebs lived and worked.

Eileen Dominic Aivaliotis, whom I remember meeting on the first day of freshman orientation with my roommate, **Sheri Lyman Laigle**, and her roommate, **Lisa Piazza**, writes that she has returned to the workplace as a certified public accountant after 10 years of being a stay-at-home mom. She is very glad to be back at work. She and her husband, Gregory, celebrated 15 years of marriage and have five children—Mary Catherine, 11, Sophia, 8, and Gregory, John, and Joseph, triplets who are 10. They are very excited to be moving to Massapequa, N.Y., fulfilling a lifelong dream to live "on the water." Eileen has been in touch with **Donna Carpenter**, **Julie Minn Lee**, and Lisa Piazza (her first-year suite mates from 616) and is hoping for a mini reunion this year. She sends her best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year!

Sharon Johnson also sends new-year wishes and is looking forward to our 30th reunion in 2015. She is very happy that her dissertation, *The Fire That Genius Brings: Creativity and the Unhealed Companionship between Zora Neale Hurston and Langston Hughes*, is finally available at ProQuest Dissertation Publishing. It explores the relationship and collaboration between Hurston '28 and Hughes from 1925 through 1931. A noncirculating bound copy is available at the Zora Neale Hurston Lounge on campus. Sharon received her PhD in 2012.

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1986

Catherine Cook
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1987

Patricia DeMaras wrote in to **Tracey Donner** that she is now senior counsel at Xerox Corporation in Norwalk, Conn., where she represents Xerox's pension and 401(k) plans in connection with investments and regulatory compliance. She tries to stay active in pro bono legal work, assisting local charities and nonprofits with corporate law-related matters. Prior to working at Xerox, she was associate general counsel for the Connecticut treasurer's office for approximately six years, serving as a primary investment lawyer for the state's pension fund. Before that, Trish was an attorney practicing securities and corporate law at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP in New York City and Kelley Drye & Warren LLP in Stamford, Conn. She describes her route to practicing law as rather circuitous—graduating from the University of Connecticut's law school in 1997, only after completing a master's in journalism at the University of Florida in 1991. Trish wrote, "I have one absolutely terrific son, who will be 11 later this year and who goes to the Unquowa School in Fairfield, Conn. He loves to play electric guitar and Minecraft (ugh)." Like so many of us, she admits that there seldom seems to be enough time, and she regrets having lost touch with most folks at Barnard over the years. She is happy, however, to be involved with the class again. She is looking forward to hearing from classmates socially or professionally.

My son Addisu and I were fortunate to squeeze in a visit with **Lorna Sessler Graham** and her husband, Charley McKenna, in New York City over the busy Christmas holidays. Lorna shared with me details of her recent visit with **Melinda**

Maerker, who was visiting New York from Los Angeles a few weeks earlier. Melinda is presently working on a book/video project about LGBT families, and visited with **Signe Taylor** during her East Coast trip as well.

One last update, this one from the program at a recent Columbia basketball game: our friend and classmate **Ulane Lysniak** was featured in a Columbia Hall of Fame spotlight!

Please keep the updates rolling in. It is wonderful to hear from so many of our classmates.

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1988

Abby Stoddard is a researcher/policy analyst on international humanitarian assistance and volunteers on the board of directors at Doctors of the World USA. The United States affiliate of Médecins du Monde (MDM USA), Doctors of the World supports disaster relief and health programs and established a post-Sandy free health care clinic in the Rockaways in New York.

And lastly, from **Ada Guerrero Guillod**: "If we had a class while at Barnard or just shared a few moments in all of our four years, you were an inspiration to me and made my college experience an intellectually rewarding experience."

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1989

25th Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

It is hard to believe that our 25th reunion is fast upon us.

Amy Veltman writes that she recently moved back to New York from Portland, Ore. Though before she spent seven years in Portland, she was in L.A. for five years. That's where she met her husband, Daniel Knoepfelmacher (CC '94). He's currently a

second-year resident in psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College. Amy currently heads the New York City outpost of a small, international consultancy, On Your Feet. She travels around the U.S. and Asia, helping companies with leadership, collaboration, and creativity by using practices inspired by improvisational theatre, among other disciplines. She treasures her time at home with her beloved, entertaining daughters, 7 and 10.

The family of **Jessica Patt**, including Carol Prins '62, is recognizing the 20th anniversary of the death of their daughter. Jessica relished art and art history, music of every genre, social justice, guitar, speaking French, the island of Miquelon, talking all night, going out dancing, sailing, and knitting. She recognized that her ability to volunteer was a luxury. The family has remembered Jessica through gifts for the Jessica E. Patt '89 Community Service Internship Fund at Barnard. Gifts can be made in her memory. For more information, please contact Debbie Braverman in the development office at 212-870-2581 or dbraverman@barnard.edu.

Looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at Reunion! Please note my new e-mail address for future correspondence: cat@tedescolawoffices.com.

Carole LoConte Tedesco
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1990

Jennifer Anzivino Bruni reports that she had a lovely time with **Regina Poreda** and her family over the Christmas holidays, when they visited Boston. She also reports that she has a new job: communications manager for the trial court of Massachusetts. Congrats!

Nicole Ellison writes that she recently joined the School of Information at the University of Michigan as an associate professor after over eight years at Michigan State University. She and her family moved to Ann Arbor and are enjoying exploring the lovely college town. Nicole's research focuses on the social and interpersonal aspects of social media use. She is currently working on several research projects. For one, she is working

A Romance with Writing Novels

Megan McLaughlin Frampton '86

You could say that Megan McLaughlin Frampton's love affair with writing romance novels began when she lost her job as editor-in-chief of a music-industry publication, a result of the financial fallout from the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. With a 2½-year-old son at home, Frampton and her husband decided that she would be a stay-at-home mother. She also began doing something she hadn't done in years: voraciously consuming historical romance novels, favoring small volumes she could hold in one hand while multitasking with the other. Soon enough, her own ideas for these novels began flowing. "The one thing about romances is that there is always a happily-ever-after," Frampton explains. "If they told real life it'd be really boring."

In 2005, Frampton sent inquiries to agents and publishers with the first three chapters of her just-finished novel, *A Singular Lady*, about the daughter of a baron determined to marry rich to save her family. Like most first-time novelists, Frampton received numerous rejections from publishers and agents before exactly one agent and one publisher expressed interest. *A Singular Lady* sold within days to Signet Books and was published under its Regency Romance line.

That line folded in 2006, and Frampton went on to work as a consultant for music conferences and Clear Channel radio. But she never stopped writing. "One thing about me is that I don't always realize that I should give up. I just persist," she says.

In 2012, Frampton published *Vanity Fare (A Novel of Lattes, Literature, and Love)*, about a 40-year-old, recently jilted Brooklyn mom who discovers new love when she takes a job as a copywriter for a local bakery. She published it under the name Megan Caldwell (her mother's maiden name) to differentiate it from her historical romance novels.

For now, she has returned to romance writing and is set to release her fifth romance, *The Duke's Guide to Correct Behavior*, set in Victorian times. In addition, Frampton works full time as the community manager at heroesandheartbreakers.com, the Macmillan Group-owned website for romance-novel lovers. She writes posts, oversees dozens of bloggers, and manages the website's daily content. With a full-time job, she is keenly aware of her limited time, but says having structure and deadlines helps her productivity. Plus, when she's working on a book, she always has something to look forward to. "I always like reading a happy ending, so that inspires me to write," says Frampton. —Xinyi Lin '14



with researchers at Facebook to look at question asking on the site. In another project, funded by the Gates Foundation, Nicole and her graduate students are exploring how first-generation college students can use social network sites to get informational and social support from their extended networks. Nicole lives with her husband, Shawn, a former professor and current stay-at-home dad, contractor, and middle-school debate coach; her son,

Kai, 6; and her daughter, Katerina, 13. She would love to connect with other alumnae in the area.

Pamela Rittelmeyer reports that she returned to grad school last fall to pursue a PhD in environmental studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

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1991

Nancy Lee, who majored in chemistry at Barnard, is now a full tenured professor at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. She is a radiation oncologist focused on head and neck cancer. She has written her own textbook and has authored or coauthored about 300 papers and 40 book chapters. She was recently selected as one of the best doctors by *New York* magazine. She states, "There is no doubt the education I received at Barnard is a huge asset. They prepared me to be who I am."

Rachel Levitt Slade is the executive editor of *Boston* magazine, which means she is involved in everything from fashion shoots to long-range planning to editing big stories.

Marie McLaughlin Simoncelli is settled happily into her life as a 4th-grade teacher and a mom. She lives with her 17-year-old son, Dante, and 15- and 11-year-old daughters, Ava and Isabella, in a house right on Lake Erie in Hamburg, N.Y. She saw **Holli Berman** during a visit to Colorado this past summer. She can't believe she is sending her own kids off to college soon.

Tania Zamorsky lives in Manhattan and works as the PR and communications manager for the law firm Kaye Scholer.

Adrienne Neff is still close friends with **Sharanjit Calay**. They recently had a lovely group dinner with **Jennifer Bergstrom** and **Reena Jana MacAdam**.

Yaffa Shira Grossberg loves being at the Barnard receptions and lectures in Israel when dean emerita Dorothy Urman Denburg '70 comes to town with professors and the president. "I look at the young women who are on their gap-year programs in Israel, and know they will be beginning Barnard in the fall and I am jealous. I'm glad to get a taste of Barnard every now and then at the lectures, but I also realize what I missed when I was at Barnard. I never would have chosen to take a class on Henry James or political science, but I sit and enjoy every bit of it when professors Jennie Kassanoff and Flora Davidson speak." Yaffa is preparing for her son Avichai's bar mitzvah, which will be in August. Older brother Eden is busy

with his *bagrut* tests in 11th grade, and sister Ma'yan is finishing middle school in 9th grade.

Katharine Loeb is an associate professor and director of the PhD program in clinical psychology at Fairleigh Dickinson University. She lives with her husband and two children in Teaneck, N.J.

Leah (Leora) Leeder recently enjoyed visits to Israel from family and friends who have school vacations in the United States. Along with her brother and sister-in-law, Hilary Spierer Leeder '02, she also had the opportunity to reconnect with **Victoria Beer Berlin** and **Royce Feld Maron** and their beautiful families.

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1992

Sarah Van Ness is living in the Glen Park neighborhood of San Francisco and recently moved to a house where she's exploring urban farming, getting fresh eggs from chickens, and honey from two beehives.

Constance Pendleton is living in D.C. with her husband, Jason, and 5- and 3-year-old sons, Sam and James. She is a cochair of the media law practice at Davis Wright Tremaine, and was named one of the best lawyers in America in media law 2010 to the present by the organization Best Lawyers.

Sharon Samber just started a business called Open Book Personal Histories. She says, "If you live in the Washington, D.C., area and have a story to tell and/or share with your family, get in touch."

Maria Vallejo-Nguyen will be completing her master's in women's history at Sarah Lawrence College this year.

Jessica Weiner has been working as an editor on independent films/documentaries and TV shows, including a documentary about Bollywood dancers in New York. She and her wife of two years live in Park Slope with their two cats.

Carrie Kayser-Cochran has been living in Colorado with her husband of almost 20 years, Quinn Kayser-Cochran (CC '92), and their children, Keira, 8, and Cullen, 4. Carrie works at Cisco Systems

and says, "High tech is the place to be and I'm putting my psychology degree to good use in my sales career."

Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni says, "Now that my eldest children are graduating from high school and my youngest are middle schoolers, I have renewed my law license and am excited to be learning about special-education law. Anyone with tips or leads should feel free to send them to me."

Jill Osborn Dauchy writes that after earning an MBA from Wharton, she relocated to London nearly 15 years ago. Married with two children, she is a founding partner of a firm that specializes in advising sovereign governments on financial issues related to debt management and infrastructure development.

Sarah Brown started a green-business union and consumer co-op in Portsmouth, N.H. The Green Alliance works with small local green-leaning businesses to certify them, promote them to the community and to connect them with consumers. Sarah would love to hear from other Barnard ladies working in business and sustainability.

Karen Elizaga's first book came out on January 1, 2014. It's called: *Find Your Sweet Spot: A Guide to Personal and Professional Excellence*. Karen has been featured in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*, and more, and on TV segments for Fox Business and WABC.

Catherine McKay Araiza is moving back to Austin, Texas, which was her home until she left to attend Barnard. She works as a learning manager for Shell Trading. The "work is global, which keeps things interesting every day."

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1993

Hello to my friends in our forties! I hope this edition of Class Notes finds you all doing well. I am writing to you all from frigid Minnesota, where I have had to

cancel school for three days this winter due to cold. Yes, I've had snow days before, but never cold days. Maybe there's something to all this climate-change research.

Anyway, there is much more exciting news to share than that. **Michelle McCarthy** and her husband, Fitzroy, welcomed their baby son, Lemar Anthony Lindsay, into the world in November. Those of us who attended our reunion were waiting for this news.

Lara Zizic premiered her first feature documentary film, *Mission Congo*, at the Toronto International Film Festival and screened the film in New York City at the DOC NYC film festival. The film demonstrates how "charismatic self-proclaimed moral-majority leader Pat Robertson saw an irresistible business opportunity during one of the worst humanitarian crises of modern times."

That's it for now. Please continue to send me updates on the exciting things that are happening in your lives! Take care, everyone.

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1994

20th Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

The Class of '94 planning committee has been busily planning our reunion. We are hoping to see many members of our class there. For updates please like our Facebook page: facebook.com/Barnard1994.

Courtney Lake Vegelin sends this uplifting account of the past 20 years: "I've been living in the Netherlands for about 15 years, though I was going back and forth between the U.S. and the Netherlands for a few years before that. I came to the Netherlands in 1996 to do my master's in social sciences at the University of Amsterdam, then continued with my PhD research at the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research. I've been lecturing at the University of Amsterdam in international relations for the last nine years, and just joined their planning, geography, and international-development studies department as a lecturer in international

development and urban inequalities. I'm married to a Dutch fellow, and we have two children, Alexander, 9, and Ambriel, 8. Life is good in the Netherlands, though I miss my friends and family more each year. Nonetheless, I am thrilled with the work I do, I really think I won the lottery with my two fantastic kids, and I generally feel like a very lucky person. Lately, I have found myself surrounded by more and more amazing and inspiring women, among both my colleagues and friends, who are challenging and motivating me in new and unexpected ways. It makes me think of Barnard and the wonderful people I met there."

Erin Rossitto is looking forward to attending Reunion and sent this message. "I just hit the 10-year mark of living in south Florida with my husband, Chad, and three children—Jackson, 10, and twin girls, Josie and Sammi, 8. I founded a coworking space, Muses & Visionaries, for female professionals in West Palm Beach in 2011, and recently launched a women's magazine. The magazine is titled *M&V Magazine*. It is a regional magazine, and our goal is 'inspiring women to create a life well lived.' It's been a tremendous amount of work being a publisher but I am thoroughly enjoying it. I have also been busy chairing the board of directors of the Women Donors Network, an organization based in San Francisco that brings together progressive women donor activists. I am so looking forward to reconnecting with the women from our class at our reunion."

Ha Lim Lee moved to Hong Kong in 2010 and has made it her home for now. She works as director of business development for Handel Architects. She has a 7-year-old daughter, Thea, and a 3-year-old son, Tayden. She and her family love to travel and experience the cultures of Asia.

I wanted to remind the class that you can share your news anytime by logging on to alum.barnard.edu and adding an entry to Class Notes.

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1995

Cheryl Thomae Viirand launched Freedible, a social network that allows

you to connect with others who eat like you do. People with dietary restrictions can find and share recipes and blog posts related to special diets, join groups, and share tips and support. Three years ago, Cheryl and her husband, Erki Viirand (CC '97), adopted a newborn baby who turned out to require a heavily restricted diet. Determined to make it easier for families in similar situations, she taught herself how to use open-source software and developed the Freedible community prototype. It launched in July 2013 and now has almost 400 members, with great things planned for the near future. Cheryl says that working on a for-profit venture with a strong social mission at its core feels like the skin she first found at Barnard finally fits just right.

After 10 years in trust and estate administration working primarily with high-net-worth clients, **Francesca Mabon** started her own practice as an investment advisor representative at Waddell & Reed, where she and two partners work with clients at all levels. Also, in partnership with Kirsten Curry, CEO of Leading Retirement Solutions, Francesca creates retirement planning learning events in the Seattle area. They recently cohosted "DOMA: Same Gender Marriages Now Part of ERISA," addressing the effect of recent legal changes on pension and retirement plans for professionals. They now work with the Museum of History and Industry to create similar events. Francesca is also on the executive board of Out & Equal Workplace Advocates, whose mission is to promote workplace equality and create opportunities for LGBTQ professionals and allies.

Elizabeth Flisser Rosman and her husband, Adam Rosman, welcomed a baby girl, Julia Max Rosman, on November 18. Julia joins her big sister, Emily Alex Rosman.

Susanna Yee is director of digital marketing at mikeroweWORKS Foundation, an organization working with technical schools across the country to fund scholarships for alternative education.

Jennifer Rossello works in advertising and television. After 15 years with MTV, Jennie relocated from New York to Fort Lauderdale, where she enjoyed the weather this winter. She continues to consult with a creative team within

Viacom networks. Jennie and her husband, Robert Jimenez, have a son, Truman, 5, and expect a second child this June. She keeps in touch with several people from our graduating class and looks forward to hearing more about our 20th reunion.

Lara Coutinho supports U.S. military online communities, recently concluding two more trips to Zambia as part of an outreach effort to get partner nations involved. Outside of work, Laura founded a theatre troupe that specializes in *commedia dell'arte*. This year, the two-year-old troupe performed a self-written show called *Love and Lutefisk* at the international Commedia dell'Arte Day on February 25.

The movie version of *MINE*, the play that **Kieren van den Blink** produced and starred in, is shooting in Manhattan this year.

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1996

Marcy Berman reported that she and **Jennifer Lowry** traveled to Europe and enjoyed a two-week Greek-isle cruise this past summer. They had great fun and enjoyed the trip of a lifetime.

Melissa Goldwag reports that she and her husband welcomed their fourth child, a daughter named Noa Moriah Fachler, on June 2. "Noa's older siblings are Aviel, 9, Tamar, 7, and Yishai, 4. "We are living in Modi'in and I have been working for the past two years at the Israel National Road Safety Authority as the director of research," she writes. "Gaby is at HP software as a project manager."

Jennifer Kim Hamel writes that she "passed the California bar exam this summer to add to my other law licenses in New York and Florida. This was the hardest exam to prepare for, since I had to study while working as a stay-at-home mom to my four awesome kids: Natalie, 9, Joelle, 8, Luke, 6, and David, 3. I couldn't have done it without the support of my parents and my husband, Mark Hamel."

Olga Choromanska Kligerman reports that she is living in Fayetteville, outside Syracuse. "I married Jordan

Kligerman, whom I have known since we were in middle school together in Syracuse! We have been married for nine years and have four amazing boys—Eli, 7, Ezra, 5, Silas, 3 and August, 5 months. We love living in beautiful upstate New York and enjoy everything outdoors. We are feeling very blessed every day. I have also been practicing hematology/oncology in Syracuse for the past six years."

We hope to hear from more of you in the future!

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1997

Elizabeth Githens Coyle and her husband, Douglass, welcomed a daughter, Annabelle, on May 2, 2013. Annabelle is already being prepped for Barnard (Class of 2034?) as Elizabeth is currently a math and SAT tutor in Montclair, N.J.

We heard from **Sharon Fire**, who writes that she is married to Craig Fenster (CC '86). They live on Staten Island, N.Y., with their three kids (Nathan, 7, Jacob, 5, and Celia, 4). Sharon enjoyed a career in medical publishing for 10 years until she became a stay-at-home mom, which she considers the best job she ever had.

Yvette Bryant Hatton and her husband both work in downtown San Francisco and the whole family commutes to the city each day from the East Bay. Last year, she went back to work at Wells Fargo after having a second baby. Yvette sees **Hannah Evans Denmark** and **Johanna Voolich Wright** when she can. She says life is busy and she feels pretty lucky.

Violita Hernandez Kovchegov e-mails she has been married for 13 years to Yuri Kovchegov (who got his PhD from Columbia) and they have three children—Claire, 11, Peter, 5, and Natalie, 1. They live in Columbus, Ohio. Violita is a senior support analyst for a nonprofit organization, OCLC, whose goal is to help libraries locate, lend, acquire, and catalog

library material. She assists in maintaining the ILLiad product on close to 600 hosted servers. Violita shares that in August 2013 she attended **Yuko Saito's** wedding to Prakash Vipra. She says she had a chance to see classmates **Elena Chan** and **Jennifer Chen** at the wedding.

Elisa Miller-Out is living in Ithaca, N.Y., with her husband, Leon Miller-Out, and two children, Louisa, 9, and Chiara, 6. She is the CEO of Singlebrook, a firm that builds custom web and mobile software for universities, start-ups, and social enterprises. Elisa also serves as the president of the Barnard Club of the Finger Lakes.

Hilary Reiter let us know she has been living in Park City, Utah, for 12 years and is the owner of Redhead Marketing & PR. She also recently launched a blog, *NewYorkerInUtah.com*, in which she uses her perspective as a New Yorker to write about her experiences living in one of the most unlikely places. She says she is enjoying a very fulfilling lifestyle in an active, beautiful town where she resides with her two rescue dogs. Please keep sharing your news.

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1998

Please check out our class blog at barnard1998.wordpress.com for more details on our classmates. Since the blog is invitation only, please let me know if you need to be invited.

Our regular feature: Barnard prepared me for...

Deborah Vaughn Yadegari: Life, the juggle and the "jungle," opening my eyes to certain realities and sheltering me in the world of academia and the theoretical ideal while my young adult life necessitated it.

Sarah Dadush: The winding, sometimes bumpy, and often lovely roads of self-reinvention.

Shuma Panse: Having an open mind and being open to new career paths, and

for that I am grateful.

After staying home with her four children for the last few years, Deborah Yadegari has launched Ybreast, an upscale provider of concierge lactation support that offers breastfeeding support, corporate lactation programs, and much more. She hired Shari Lichter Raymond '09 to focus on social media.

Sarah has lived on three continents. She journeyed from NGO to law school to law firms to a stint as a research fellow at NYU law school, to an agency of the United Nations in Italy, and finally to Rutgers Law School, where she is an assistant professor.

Shuma has worked in the public health sector since graduation, with a focus primarily on the health challenges that low- and middle-income countries face. For the last six years, she has been at GBCHealth, a New York-based organization that engages the global business community on public health issues. Shuma would be happy to share her journey with any alumnae interested in learning more about career paths in global/public health.

Meredith Sobel is engaged, living in Rye, N.Y., and house hunting. She is a registered dietitian in southern Connecticut, doing corporate wellness consulting. She is also building a private practice in Westchester and teaching nutrition, biology, and basic health science as an adjunct at City University of New York.

Naomi De Silva recently accepted a position as associate general counsel at Medivation. In November, she got engaged to Doug Snyder at Ashford Castle in Ireland.

After 15 years in HR/compensation, **Janet Shin** decided to try her hand at New York City real estate. She is now a licensed real estate salesperson at Town Residential.

Anjolie (Jolie) Madan Ealer published her first book, *My Boyfriend Barfed in My Handbag...And Other Things You Can't Ask Martha*, under her pen name, Jolie Kerr. The book is based on her weekly cleaning advice column, "Ask a Clean Person," on *Deadspin* and *Jezebel*.

Barbi Appelquist is running for California state senate, district 26. She asks alumnae to contact her if they are interested in supporting her campaign.

Veronica Schanoes received tenure in the English department at Queens College-CUNY, where she is an assistant professor. In 2013 she published two pieces of fiction: "Phosphorus," in *Queen Victoria's Book of Spells*, and *Burning Girls*, a novella. She moved in with her best friend, her husband, and their child (Veronica's godson) on a permanent basis.

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1999

15th Reunion May 29-June 1, 2014

Laura Levin Schreiber and
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2000

Congratulations to our very own class president, **Bess Seewald Greenbaum**, and her husband, Andy, who welcomed their first child, David Catullus Seewald, on October 1, 2013. David, who arrived with much joy and verve, is extraordinarily cute, and very fun to cuddle.

An article in *The New York Times* style section last November informed us of **Angel Chang's** creative successes, including her receipt of a Cartier Women's Initiative Award in 2007, and her work in Dimen, in Guizhou Province, China, where she spent most of 2012 working with artisans from the Miao and Dong ethnic groups. Angel's collection incorporates unique style and natural handwork in the fabrics she uses, helping to create economic development and preserve cultures through fashion.

Kudos also to our classmate **Chelsea Peretti**, who has been starring in the television series *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, which won a Golden Globe award in January. It has been very exciting for us to see her on television.

Sonia Van Dyne Van Braden and her husband have welcomed a new addition to their family. New baby Ryland arrived January 1, at the University of California, San Francisco, and apparently couldn't resist breaking up his big brother

Kieran's third birthday party! Sonia, who works as a certified nurse midwife, studied at UCSF and the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing following Barnard.

And one more birth announcement: **Alaina Colon Gilligo** and her husband, Tom, welcomed their first child, Thomas McDonnell, on December 15, 2013. He was seven pounds, three ounces, and 20.5 inches.

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2001

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2002

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2003

Rachel Slutsky Kaplowitz married William Kaplowitz (CC '03) three weeks after graduation. After spending time in Israel and getting a master's in social work from the University of Michigan, they moved to Chicago. Their daughter, Devorah, was born in 2008, and their son, Isaac, in 2011. After five years as a full-time parent, Rachel is now the school social worker at Akiba-Schechter Jewish Day School. She is finding her new job intense, but fulfilling. She would love to catch up with any alumnae in the Chicago area.

Jenna Bean Veatch's second full-length dance-theatre show, *50 Heartbreaks (and I'm Still in Love With YOUkraine)*, premiered in October in Seattle to rave reviews. It was supported by grants from Seattle's office of arts and cultural affairs and the Bossak/Heilbron Charitable Foundation. She toured it to the New Orleans Fringe Festival in November and hopes to present it in her new home of Bellingham, Wash., in the spring.

Abigail Clay Turner defended her dissertation and finished her PhD in economics and public policy in August. Then she accepted a consulting job at Charles River Associates in its labor and

employment practice in Tallahassee. When they moved, her husband quit his job to become a stay-at-home dad to their two beautiful little boys.

Elizabeth Housman had a baby boy, Noah Cohen, in April 2013. Noah has frequent playdates with Aline Hirsch, the daughter of **Polly Alfred Hirsch**. Elizabeth is an internist in Boston. She and her sister, Sarah Housman, are physicians at the same hospital, along with both of their husbands.

Ephrat Asherie's dance company, Ephrat Asherie Dance, will be performing at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival from June 25–29 as part of the *Unreal Hip Hop* show, and from July 17–27, where she will be a featured performer in a world premiere by Dorrance Dance. Ephrat is currently an artist in residence with the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Workspace program through June 2014.

Victoria Sears Goldman and her husband, Jeremy Goldman, welcomed their first child, Adeline Daisy, who was born on August 4.

Judith Horwitz, her husband, Sam, and daughter, Ariella, recently moved to the Chicago area, where Judith is a pediatrician at a federally qualified health center.

Hilary Sledge recently moved back to New York from California and accepted a job in the legal department at the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd. She greatly enjoyed attending her 10-year reunion in May and spending time with old friends and being inspired. Let us know what's new and exciting with you!

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2004

10th Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

For the past decade, **Rachel (Rae)**

Abileah served as codirector and national organizer at CODEPINK Women for Peace, a national women-led organization working to end the U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Rae cofounded Young Jewish Proud to work for a just peace in Israel and Palestine. She has traveled to the Middle East, including Egypt, Gaza, Iran, and

Israel, to advocate for creative nonviolent resistance to war and occupation. Rae is currently on a yearlong sabbatical traveling and studying environmental justice (her major at Barnard) in India and Thailand, and backpacking the Himalayas in Nepal. She's also surfing the California coast, still writing poetry (inspired by the slams that Students Against Silence organized on campus), and posting strange and striking public art photos on her Tumblr. She's based in San Francisco and would like to meet up with other alumnae in the area.

Tina Vani earned her DDS from Columbia University College of Dental Medicine in 2008. She specialized as an endodontist at Harvard School of Dental Medicine and graduated in 2011 with a master's of medical science in oral biology. She is currently an endodontist in private practice in Manhattan. She also teaches as a clinical instructor at Columbia. She celebrated this year's New Year's Eve by hosting a game-filled party with **Sarah Bolger**, **Phoebe Ford**, and **Tara Krieger** in attendance.

Shana Bromberg Parker is happy to report that she and her husband, Matt, welcomed their first child, Theodore Vladeck, on January 23.

Ashley Kelly Fisher, a litigator at Debevoise & Plimpton, and her husband, Jeff Fisher, welcomed their daughter, Aurora Brooke, on November 25, 2013.

Tammy Lin produces print work for designers and independent publishers. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband, Dan.

Orly Klein is currently a second-year fellow in pediatric hematology and oncology in a joint program at Johns Hopkins Hospital and the National Cancer Institute at the National Institutes of Health. She lives in Baltimore and loves it.

Lesley Wojcik Raphael is living in Portland, Ore., and graduated from her anesthesiology residency in June. She is currently working as a private-practice anesthesiologist and loving it. She and her husband, David, had their first child in October, a boy named Jack Elijah. They are enjoying all the fun activities the Pacific Northwest has to offer.

Bodine (Alex) Orban Boling lives in Brooklyn and freelances in writing, voice-

over, and video editing. She married Alexis Boling in 2012 at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, and they recently made a feature film together called *movement + location*.

Michelle Choy finished her master's degree in public health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in September 2013 and is moving to Lilongwe, Malawi, for two years to work as a program manager for the Clinton Health Access Initiative and would love to connect with any Barnard alumnae in East Africa.

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Megan Mei Yin Lam
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2005

The Class of 2005 is still kicking serious tushy out there.

Greer Karlis Lynch and **Kristina McMenamin** both graduated from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, where they received their MBAs. In school, both were actively involved in the Women's Business Association. As president, Krissie spearheaded what Greer says was "some great programming for women at the school." Greer works in marketing at Microsoft and lives in Seattle with her husband.

Elizabeth Curtis was recently promoted and is now working as a diversity and inclusion development specialist at Google. In October, Elizabeth interviewed President Debora Spar about her new book as a part of Google's Talks at Google series.

This summer **Martha Low** finished her residency in veterinary ophthalmology and successfully passed her board exam, becoming a Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists. She currently practices in Langhorne, Pa., at the Center for Animal Referral and Emergency Services.

Katherine Nyce DeTroy married Ezra DeTroy on August 10, 2013, in Camden, Maine. Raleigh Smith Duttweiler '04, **Catherine Guydan**, and **Jessica Stern** were bridesmaids and **Laura Paisley Pastor** was in attendance. The couple lives in New Haven while Katherine is an advertising account supervisor at Grey

Advertising in New York City.

Allison Goldstein-Berger and husband Seth welcomed their first child, Risa Iris, in March. Allison is looking forward to taking some time away from Latin teaching to be a full-time mommy and to start recruiting Risa for Barnard class of 2035!

Stephanie Pahler and her husband, John Schneider (CC '07), welcomed a beautiful baby girl to their family this summer. Elizabeth Marie Schneider was born on June 26, 2013. Elizabeth's paternal grandmother, Regina Mullahy Schneider '75, and Stephanie both hope she carries on the family's Barnard legacy!

Erica DiMarco Domingo and her husband, John, welcomed their first child, Max Thomas, on May 27, 2013. He already loves his Barnard aunts.

Daniella Steger Steinberg and her husband, David, welcomed their daughter Lital Shalev on May 30, 2013. If her wardrobe is any indication, she is ready for Barnard—she's already decked out in a pink Barnard onesie.

Deena B. Shanker

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Gloribelle

Perez has been voted the 2014 president-elect of the Dominican Bar Association. She takes over as president in 2015.

She works as court attorney to Rita Mella, one of the two judges at the surrogate's court in New York county. She also creates events to increase diversity in the trusts and estates bar, as well as organizes volunteer opportunities for attorneys to increase access to quality legal services. In March, the Puerto Rican Bar Association honored Perez for community dedication. In 2012, Judge Fern Fisher recognized Perez's service to the New York State courts' Access to Justice program.

2006

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2007

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2008

Mariel Villeré graduated from MIT in 2013 with a master's of science in the history, theory, and criticism of architecture and art. She won a prize for her thesis, moved back to Brooklyn, and works with the New York City parks department as programs and grants manager for Freshkills Park on Staten Island.

Margot Weisberg finally moved back to New York City and is happily practicing civil litigation and trusts and estates law.

Ashleigh Hults left Goldman Sachs in 2013, started a branding agency, and was recognized by Condé Nast as one of last year's creative innovators.

Katherine Passias got engaged to Alexander Bjorklund, a Columbia alumnus.

Kristina Karaivanov Kurfess's daughter, Vivienne, just turned six months old!

Rachel Levine Baruch is a fourth-year clinical psychology PhD student at Fordham University, living in Ann Arbor as of this past August. She is expecting her first child in March.

Megan [Mahala] Glazer Schlagman graduated from Weill Cornell Medical College last year and started her residency in internal medicine at the University of Rochester Medical Center. She and her husband, Shalom, bought their first home and welcomed their daughter, Noa Eden, in July. If anyone needs a place to stay in Rochester, they happily welcome Barnard alumnae.

Laurie Wang started a food/travel blog (lauriewang.com), switched from finance to digital marketing, and started Ladies Digital, a growing community of women in digital/tech/start-ups. She met her fiancé

while studying abroad at the London School of Economic and Political Science (LSE) five years ago, and they recently bought an apartment in Greenwich. She connected with **Aditi Nigam** and hopes to be active in the Barnard Club of London.

Charlotte Piper has been living in New Orleans, working and consulting with start-ups and entrepreneurs. This fall, Charlotte will begin a master's of management at LSE, studying organizational effectiveness and change management.

Cathaleen Kaiyoorawongs returned from Peace Corps service in Guatemala and is currently director of education initiatives for UnidosNow in her hometown of Sarasota, Fla. She works on college access and preparation for low-income, first-generation college students.

Samantha Brody will graduate with her MBA from Duke University's Fuqua School of Business and start a full-time position in the marketing department of Walmart in Bentonville, Ark.

Rabia Hassan earned her JD from Seton Hall University last year and passed both the N.Y. and N.J. bar examinations. She is now working at Crow & Cushing: Counselors at Law in Princeton, N.J., a firm specializing in alternative investments.

Hannah Baker returned to New York City after living in Texas and Montana, completing a degree in anthropology, and leading a trail crew in the Clearwater National Forest of Idaho. She is excited about Spiteful Foal, her new indie folk trio, and teaches fiddle at the Jalopy Junior Folk School in Brooklyn.

Ariel Schwartz is a PhD candidate in religious studies at Northwestern University, with a certification in religion and global politics. She is working on a dissertation about the impact of hate crimes against religious minorities' places of worship in the United States.

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Reim Atabani

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2009

5th Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

Ki Lee Mak married on November 9, 2013. Her husband is from Westchester, and they plan to reside in Scarsdale. She'll continue to commute to the city and work in the New York State Department of Health.

Christina Sok recently completed her master's degree in Asian art history at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, in September 2013. She also just celebrated her six-month wedding anniversary with her husband, Cesar Cabrera (CC '07). They got married on Columbia's campus on June 1, 2013, and are now living and working in Singapore. Christina will be teaching Asian art history at Nanyang Technological University starting in January 2014 as well as working as an independent curator and critic.

Laura Kenkel Lennon married Miles Lennon (CC '08) on September 14, 2013. Fellow Barnard '09ers **Kateri Benjamin**, **Nicole Economou**, and **Jennifer Feierman** were bridesmaids, and many other Barnard friends were in attendance.

Heather Fields Spain is working on her master's degree in occupational therapy at the Medical University of South Carolina. She celebrated her first anniversary with her husband, Gregory Spain, on February 16! Annie Jeong '10 was one of her bridesmaids.

Katerina Tagaras lives in Fort Lauderdale. She attends Nova Southeastern University and is finishing up her doctorate of pharmacy. She is looking forward to seeing everyone at our five-year reunion.

Emily Stein is graduating from the University of Texas School of Law this spring and is very excited to begin working for Baker Botts's New York office in the fall. She will be focusing on trademark and copyright law.

On February 10, 2013, **Ashley Walls** married Mustafa Kabakci among family and friends in Aydin, Turkey. The couple has since relocated to the United States and looks forward to what the future may bring as they mark their first year as a happily married couple.

Christina Black is currently finishing her second year in the English literature PhD program at Cornell. If anyone else is

up there, she would love to see them!

Robin Broder Hytowitz was awarded a Fulbright fellowship and is currently living with her husband in Copenhagen, Denmark. She also began the first year of a PhD program in electric energy engineering at Johns Hopkins University.

Abby Mandel Eserner and her husband, Avi, welcomed baby girl Ava Ruth (Barnard class of 2035) in December. Big brother Daniel has taken on the role of protector with great pride. Abby is a registered nurse at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in the surgical oncology unit, and she loves it.

Brittany Pavon-Suriel is pursuing a master's degree in international education at Teachers College, focusing on humanitarian issues and postconflict education.

Alexandra Loizzo-Desai
Alexandra.v.loizzo@gmail.com

Jennifer Feierman
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2010

Giselle Leon has been promoted to trainee/coordinator at Creative Artists Agency, and has moved from New York to join their headquarters in Los Angeles.

Yolanda Lannquist is pursuing a master's in public policy at Harvard Kennedy School of Government, focusing on international affairs. This summer she will intern at the American Embassy in Paris.

Jennie Rose Halperin received a GNOME Free and Open Source Software Outreach for Women fellowship to join the Mozilla Firefox community-building team for the spring.

Alicia Mountain is writing poetry in the MFA program at the University of Montana in Missoula. While engaged in her own work, Alicia also teaches undergraduate composition. She presented a workshop on solidarity practices at the conference Thinking Its Presence: Race and Creative Writing, in April.

Caroline Leone was recently promoted at her firm, the Advisory Board Company, to the position of health-care consultant with expertise in patient experience.

In the spring, **Lauren Ely** will begin a master's in adolescent education in English at Hunter College. Lauren's work was recently published in the fall issue of *Fare Forward*, a new magazine that offers "a Christian review of ideas."

Caroline Lang was admitted to the practice of law in New York State on January 23, after graduating magna cum laude from Albany Law School in May 2013. Caroline is an associate attorney at the firm of Cooper Erving & Savage in Albany. Her practice is focused in the areas of trusts and estates, elder law, and special-needs planning.

Lindsay McGhay married Ryan Jones on November 23, 2013, in Winter Park, Fla. She works as the marketing manager for a national nonprofit patient advocacy organization. She also continues to pursue dance while enjoying living in Florida with her husband and dog, Oliver.

Sally Davis
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2011

Naima Green
naimapatrice@gmail.com

Sonal Kumar
sonalkumar2011@gmail.com

2012

Julia Mix-Barrington is living in Boston and attending graduate school for English at Boston University. She earned her master's degree last May and is now working toward her PhD. She also planned and taught her first class, a drama survey with 13 BU undergraduates, in the fall of 2013. She found the experience challenging but very fulfilling.

Hannah Goodman Brenman married Ariel Brenman (GS '09) on December 26.

Caroline Casey joined Lazard's financial institutions banking practice in October 2013. She and her partner, Anders Boman (CC '11), whom she met in a Barnard philosophy class in the fall of 2008, also recently celebrated five years together.

Genevieve (Gigi) Clark has been working for a year at Clear Channel Media and Entertainment on early-morning

sports/talk radio shows in Connecticut. She was recently promoted to an update anchor, in which she gives live and taped sports reports throughout the morning shows. She also works as the stage manager for Starship Dance Theater, where she produced and danced in the winter production. She is now helping the director with the spring show.

Emily Drinker recently returned from a four-month adventure living and working aboard the Celebrity Equinox cruise ship as it traveled through the Mediterranean. She performed as the lead singer of a small house band, singing and playing ukulele in several shows every night for several thousand passengers. When she wasn't performing she was off the ship, exploring Athens, Florence, Nice, Venice, and many more incredible cities. Her favorite port city was Kotor, Montenegro, a very tiny but absolutely beautiful place. She is now living in Philadelphia and recording a folk album with one of her bandmates, in addition to performing in the Philly area.

Emma Goidel was awarded a two-year playwrighting residency at InterAct Theatre Company in Philadelphia in the fall of 2013. InterAct will present a staged reading of her thesis play, *A Knee That Can Bend*, this July. She was also named 2013–14 core apprentice at the Playwrights' Center in Minneapolis, which will present a workshop of Emma's latest play, *Local Girls*, in June. Emma recently began a new position as assistant to the dean in the College of Art, Media & Design at the University of the Arts.

Yevgenia (Jenny) Lyubomudrova is now working as a junior cataloguer at Bonhams, an art auction house.

Kaylin Marcotte joined a start-up called theSkimm in January. It is a daily e-mail newsletter written for young professional women to keep them informed and engaged with current events in a fun, witty way.

Julia Mix-Barrington said **Elizabeth Morris** is teaching English and running the dance program at the Kent School in Kent, Conn. Julia said she and Ellie both discuss feminism and equal rights with their students, something that makes them feel connected to Barnard.

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2013

1st Reunion May 29–June 1, 2014

I hope to see you all at our first class reunion this spring! In the meantime, here is what your classmates have been up to.

Anne Brink is working in visitor experience at the Rubin Museum of Art, as well as assisting a sculptor in her Brooklyn studio.

In July, **Dana Prussian** began work as an analyst at Barclays. She has also been volunteering with the New York Junior League and serving on the Columbia College Young Alumni committee.

Emma Salomons is in graduate school at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business. She looks forward to graduating with a master's in management studies and returning to New York City this May.

Following graduation, **Stavroula Koinis** interned as a Guggenheim intern at the Osborne Association's Court Advocacy Services, where she helped people who have come in contact with the criminal-justice system find alternatives to incarceration. She has continued this internship while also attending graduate school at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College.

Alexa Hammel works as a recruiting coordinator at Citibank, where she supports recruiters who are focused on finance, community development, and investigative services positions. It is rewarding and enjoyable. Alexa looks forward to conducting interviews and working directly with hiring managers.

Olivia Hull works as a reporter on Martha's Vineyard. In March, she visited classmates **Naomi Wasserman** in Santa Fe and **Andrea Egan** in Boulder.

Rebecca Gray decided to stay in New York and is working in many capacities, which includes composing with Elias Arts, bartending, tutoring, and playing in a band. Her band VoXXing (pronounced "voice-crossing") had its first show in January and is also made up of Raquel Chaves (CC '14), David Halpern (CC '13), Chris Ruenes (CC '13). **Thea-Camille Briggs** played a role in the early formation of the band.

D'Meca Homer has just finished a six-week travel tour, which included stops in Buffalo, Florida, Ohio, D.C.,

and Wisconsin for events with the Bills, Redskins, Jaguars, Bengals, and Packers. This tour was a part of the NFL's pro-social campaign, NFL Play 60 Keep Gym in Schools, which promotes physical fitness for youth. D'Meca is excited to be home now and looks forward to her next project.

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Obituaries



Longtime Barnard English professor **Remington Patterson** passed away in January at the age of 87. Patterson began teaching at Barnard in

1955, earning his PhD at Yale while working as an instructor at Barnard. He went on to become assistant professor, associate professor, and, in 1973, full professor. He retired from the College in 1994.

Patterson served as chair of the English department several times. He also served as acting dean of the faculty from 1975–77. Though born in Nice, France, Patterson's scholarship was on British literature, focusing on Shakespeare, Henslowe, the Elizabethan Renaissance, and early English drama.

His wife, Duane Lloyd Patterson '55, passed away in February 2013. A teacher and school librarian, she was an active Barnard volunteer for more than six decades.

Remington Patterson is survived by his son, Burns, daughter, Sarah Cherry, and five grandchildren. If you wish to make a gift in memory of Remington Patterson, please go to barnard.edu/gift, and you may direct the gift to the Duane Patterson English Faculty Enrichment Fund.

Linda Schapiro Collins '52, a devoted alumna with deep family ties to Barnard and Columbia, passed away on January 7. Collins was a Hellenic studies major at Barnard; she earned her master's from Columbia in the 1970s. She went on to become a writer, contributing to *Mademoiselle*, *The Hudson*

Review, and *Commentary*, among other publications, and taught literature at Columbia from 1968 to 1985.

In 1986, Viking published her collection of short stories, *Going to See the Leaves*. Collins was also a member of the board of directors of Yaddo, the artists' community in Saratoga Springs, and a friend of the School for American Ballet. Collins's father, Morris Schapiro, was a Columbia graduate and longtime supporter of the University. Her uncle, Meyer Schapiro, was a Columbia graduate and an esteemed art history professor there, innovating an interdisciplinary approach to the study of art works; her aunt was Lillian Milgram Schapiro '24. Collins is survived by her husband, Arthur, sons Rufus and the classical realist artist Jacob (married to author Ann Brashares '89), six grandchildren, a brother, and cousin Miriam Schapiro Grosz '52.



The renowned architect **Madeline Arakawa Gins '62**, who, along with her husband, Shusaku Arakawa, sought to use architecture to reverse mortality, died

on January 8 as a result of cancer. An artist, poet, and architect, Gins was born in New York City and attended the High School of Music and Art.

At Barnard, she studied physics and Eastern philosophy. She went on to study painting in Brooklyn, where she met and married the Japanese artist Arakawa. The two collaborated until his death in 2010. The two believed that death could be escaped through design. Their architectural creations were designed to keep people off balance, thereby stimulating their senses, keeping them active and thus extending their lives. In 1987, Gins and Arakawa founded the Reversible Destiny Foundation, an organization dedicated to extending and bettering human life through architecture. They designed and built several structures, including Bioscleave House (Lifespan Extending Villa) in East Hampton, and the Reversible Destiny Lofts in Tokyo, which feature vibrant-colored walls, sloping floors, and sunken kitchens. Gins is survived by her brother, Stephen Gins, and his wife, Susan.

In Memoriam

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1932 Roselyn Taruskin Braun
January 13, 2005</p> <p>Selma Eron Kusebauch
August 12, 2007</p> <p>Stella Eisenberg Levine
January 6, 2014</p> <p>1934 Elizabeth Bruderle Ryan
November 8, 2002</p> <p>1935 Helen Stofer Canny
April 1, 2008</p> <p>1936 Hilda Knobloch
April 8, 2013</p> <p>1937 Jean Werner Kane
January 16, 2014</p> <p>Eleanor Martin Stone
January 31, 2014</p> <p>1938 Jane Block Blum
February 16, 2014</p> <p>1939 Marjorie Healy Traylor
January 20, 2006</p> <p>1940 Charlotte Wigand Hoyt
February 27, 2014</p> <p>1941 Vera Arndt Bush
December 18, 2013</p> <p>Estelle De Vito
February 10, 2014</p> <p>Kathleen Crandall Causey
February 11, 2014</p> <p>1943 Dorothea Weitzner
December 14, 2013</p> <p>Judith Protas
January 7, 2014</p> <p>1944 Yvonne Rodax Schaeffer
October 11, 2011</p> <p>Edna Fredericks Engoron
November 1, 2013</p> <p>Doris Landre
November 6, 2013</p> <p>Beatrice Pratt Wehle
December 18, 2013</p> <p>1945 Lillian Tassini Kyle
October 26, 2013</p> <p>Miriam Skinner Cartwright
December 14, 2013</p> <p>1946 Ida Hogg Hays
January 4, 2014</p> <p>Audrey Middlebrook De Voto
February 19, 2014</p> | <p>1948 Kathryn Schwindt Zufall
January 18, 2014</p> <p>Martha Muse
February 9, 2014</p> <p>1949 Margaret Forster Swentzel
April 25, 2013</p> <p>Sybil Gordon Kantor
December 14, 2013</p> <p>1950 Ann Kubie Rabinowitz
January 11, 2014</p> <p>1951 Marlyse Vere McCormack
January 7, 2011</p> <p>1952 Joan Munkelt Wilson
July 24, 2013</p> <p>Linda Schapiro Collins
January 7, 2014</p> <p>Ruth Mayers Goldhaber
February 18, 2014</p> <p>Evelyn Failla Rockhill
February 20, 2014</p> <p>1953 Elisabeth Habsburg-Lothringen
December 14, 2013</p> <p>Eugenia Goodall Brannon
January 26, 2014</p> <p>1954 Louise Silbert Lewis
April 26, 2008</p> <p>Nora Francke Cammann
January 31, 2014</p> <p>1957 Philomena Nardoizzi
September 8, 2013</p> <p>Judith Jaffe Baum
December 20, 2013</p> <p>1958 Anne Fenton Carbonneau
October 6, 2013</p> <p>1962 Madeline Gins Arakawa
January 8, 2014</p> <p>1967 Selma Samelsberger Campbell
January 26, 2014</p> <p>1969 Diane Drigot
October 14, 2013</p> <p>1973 Marcia Glanz
January 5, 2014</p> <p>1980 Heidi Whitney Kucker
October 29, 2013</p> <p>1981 Irene Wuensch Coggins
October 14, 2012</p> <p>Sarah Rosenthal
August 16, 2013</p> |
|---|--|

Philanthropy Takes Root

A family pools assets to endow a department chair in honor of an inspiring matriarch

Each year, the large family of Miriam Scharfman Zadek '50 gathers together for Thanksgiving. Zadek and her husband, Bob, both 85, have four daughters, plus 11 grandchildren who range in age from 13 to 35, making the holiday a significant annual event. This past year, Thanksgiving Day also happened to mark the first night of Hanukkah, making it an even more special occasion for the Zadek clan. But Miriam Zadek had no idea how truly wonderful this particular celebration would prove to be.

First there was dinner, then the opening of gifts, followed by the annual tradition of charitable giving. Zadek always asks each grandchild to give her the name of a charity ("preferably with websites," she requests) so she can make donations in their names. Once the charities were specified, the eldest and youngest grandchildren, 35-year-old Sam and 13-year-old Lily, went to the front of the room and faced their grandparents. "We have something for you," said Lily.

The surprise was a significant contribution to the College in honor of Zadek's 85th birthday. The Zadeks' daughters came up with the idea to endow a faculty chair in their mother's name; each member of the family, including all 11 grandchildren, made a contribution to the creation of the Miriam Scharfman Zadek Family Professorship in the sociology department. Professor Debra Minkoff will be the first person to hold the chair.

"I cried," recalls Miriam Zadek. "I had never dreamed anything like this would ever happen. The generosity of these children and grandchildren in thinking of this and acting upon it overwhelmed me. It was, in a way, so typical of their sensitivity, their awareness, and even their concern about others that has been evidenced by all of the charitable things they do."

(Turn the page)



From left: Professor Debra Minkoff, President Debora Spar, and Miriam Scharfman Zadek gather in the president's office for a thank-you reception.



Three generations of Zadek family members attended the reception.

Those charitable leanings descend directly from Miriam and Bob, who raised their children to embrace philanthropy, specifically when it came to supporting education. “They have been instrumental in our lives; they instilled these strong educational values in us,” says daughter Sarah Umberger. “Barnard played a large role in [our mother’s] history. It was a place she felt was home.” Daughter Beth Zadek agrees that Barnard was a presence in their lives. In fact, her own daughter, Isabel Steckel ’17, followed her grandmother to the College. “Growing up, we always heard all about what Barnard meant to our mom,” Beth adds.

Anyone who knows Miriam Zadek might say the same, as her devotion to Barnard is difficult to ignore. Many in the College community cherish her for her seemingly tireless work as a volunteer and fund-raiser. For more than five decades, she has also worked to connect alumnae to the College as cohead, with pal Roselin Seider Wagner ’50, of the Barnard Club of Central Maryland. The two were given alumnae awards at their 2010 reunion for their dedicated service. Zadek has also worked to attract new students by volunteering as a recruiter and admissions representative. There is even a scholarship fund in her name. Whenever they receive a donation on behalf of the school, whether \$5 or upward of \$5,000, one of the pair will write a personal note to the giver.

“I have to tell you, with a computer it’s easy,” Zadek admits. “Those who have e-mail, and a lot of them do, answer back.”

Zadek is also happy to share why the College was so significant to her development. She grew up in a small town outside New York City, the only hearing child in a family of three daughters. One of her sisters married a deaf man, and the two were raising a deaf child in the family home. Zadek had no real sense of herself outside the household. “I was known as the girl with two deaf sisters, but who was I?” Attending Barnard as a commuter student gave her some independence, but the longer she lived at home, the more immersed she became in the deaf community, a concern for her father, who wished for a more conventional existence for Miriam.

Zadek eventually shared his concern with the head of Barnard Health Services, Dr. Gulielma Fell Alsop, who immediately made an exception for Zadek and found room for her in the dorms. “It is a rare treat to be heard the first time one says something,” Zadek says. The move to campus changed her life. “I could act out my adolescence freely. I was a good student, and I could begin to find me.”

Another experience at Barnard that made a lasting impact occurred during her first year, in 1946. She and a friend decided they wanted to found a Zionist chapter on campus. They went

directly to Dean Virginia Gildersleeve, to request a charter. Zadek recalls that Gildersleeve reminded them that there was a chapter at Columbia. “We said we thought it was important for Barnard to have its own.” What Zadek had not known was that Gildersleeve was opposed to everything a Zionist organization would stand for, which included the creation of a Jewish state. But as Zadek recalls that conversation, Gildersleeve told them they had a right to represent that point of view on the College’s campus. Says Zadek, “She gave us the charter, and I have never forgotten that lesson. Never.”

Zadek’s family encouraged her to select the department in which to endow the chair. With an interest in sociology, religious studies, and political science, she thoroughly researched the course catalog online. She decided on sociology, her major at the College. Although she went on to do social work after receiving a master’s degree in the field from Columbia in 1952, sociology was always a part of her daily life. “For years I have been involved with people who communicate in a different way. Understanding group dynamics has informed the way I have worked throughout my life and career,” she says.

Among other achievements, Zadek worked for 20 years as the director of social work at the Hearing and Speech Agency of Baltimore (she remains on the board), and founded the agency’s centralized interpreter referral service. She is currently writing a manuscript about her life growing up with two deaf sisters and what it means to be in a family that now includes five generations of members affected by profound deafness.

The endowment was made official at a small gathering in President Debora Spar’s office in mid-April, which included Minkoff, Zadek, and members of her family. “From our perspective, it was such a lovely thought on the part of the family,” says Beth Mauro, executive director of individual giving. “What a meaningful way to honor their mom and grandmother and help Barnard. The fact that Miriam is so happy about it is what’s really great.” To be sure, Zadek could not be happier. “Barnard gave me a gift that helped shape my life,” she says. This gift is a tribute to how much of her life was spent returning the favor.

SELLING GOODS, SHARING CULTURE

Continued from Page 5

goods, as well as the basic knowledge of the trade: the best routes, which houses to avoid, and the essential phrase—*would you like to look in my pack*—that would get them through the door. Peddling was a dangerous and physically demanding occupation. A newly minted salesman, with little grasp of the language or customs of the locals, would head out on a route with up to 150 pounds of goods on his back, fighting illness, weather, and theft, dependent on learning the language and customs from the customers he served. And that, Diner said, was where an informal cultural exchange began to take place. Because the peddlers were dependent on their customers for meals and lodging, conversations often went beyond simple transactions. The peddlers were aware, she added, that they were “exemplars of Jewish people,” and that it was common for conversations between the two cultures to delve into discussions ranging from local politics to beliefs about the Old Testament to simple language lessons. Lithuanian Jews would become familiar with the Christian calendar while selling tablecloths to Irish Catholics; Ashkenazi Jews would learn conversational Spanish from Buenos Aires housewives while collecting payment on credit.

Typically, a peddler would be on the road five days a week, arriving back at his settlement by Friday. The Jewish-peddler economy was an insular one, with Jews occupying and managing every rung on the ladder between production and sales. The first rung on this economy was the door-to-door peddler, who was typically a young single man. As he gained experience and savings, he had a few avenues for development, explained Diner. If he were successful on foot, he would likely invest in a wagon and horse, which allowed him to sell heavier goods and have access to greater territory. Other peddlers settled into working as merchants or manufacturers, with the eventual goal of going into business on their own.

But it was the door-to-door hawker who made the biggest inroad into the new-world culture. Because he would most often interact with the woman of the household, the peddler represented a major economic disruptor. Women had economic agency in deciding how and with whom they would spend the household money. Thus, in smaller communities such as min-

ing towns, the company store no longer had a monopoly on goods.

Diner recounted one recorded incident where priests in a small Irish town banded together to denounce the peddlers, even going so far as to pull goods from the hands of a farmer's wife midtransaction. Her response—to ask the priests to get off her property immediately—was evident of the mutually beneficial relationship between peddlers and customers. Customers would get the goods they wanted (often including small luxuries such as tablecloths, fabrics, and kitchenware they associated with their social betters) while peddlers would gain an economic foothold in a new home.

The number of 19th-century peddlers is not known, as the transient nature of the work made it almost impossible to count them by census. Among them are standout names like Guggenheim, Seligman, Lehman, and Straus (both the family associated with Macy's department store and Levi Strauss, the inventor of denim). While new methods of manufacturing and transportation marked peddling for obsolescence at the turn of the century, department stores in almost any major city during the 20th century had their roots in peddler society. And even though the job itself was a common one taken by any young immigrant, the collective role of the peddler was enormous. Step by step, door by door, Jewish peddlers helped foster migration and shaped their integration into the societies in which they lived.

IN CONTEXT

Continued from Page 8

the New World soon after Bradstreet, challenged Puritan authorities on their teachings regarding salvation. She held meetings in her home to discuss the ministers' sermons, and seems to have suggested that some ministers were putting too much emphasis on works as a way of ascertaining one's spiritual status. However, all records of her ideas are at best secondhand, so it's hard to be sure what Hutchinson actually believed. Instead, she's something of a historical cipher, challenging historians to understand why she was so disruptive that she was both banished by the Massachusetts Bay Colony and excommunicated by the Boston church.

The range of scholarly responses—

emphasizing gender, class, personality, and theology—intrigued Gordis, and led to her doctoral work on Puritan theology, preaching, and exegesis. She found inherent and interesting contradictions in the Puritan system of biblical interpretation. Puritan exegetes argued, for instance, that a verse needed to be read in context to be properly understood. “On the other hand,” she says, “they believed that one way to understand a verse was to compare it to other biblical verses that were either similar to it or different from it, which meant that those verses were taken out of context.”

Since earning her PhD from UCLA, Gordis has authored a number of works, including a related book, *Opening Scripture: Bible Reading and Interpretive Authority in Puritan New England*, the seeds for which were planted back at Harvard. “I think that means I’ve finally finished my undergraduate thesis,” she jokes.

For her current project, she is digging into early Quaker theories of language. Early Quakers tried to close the gap between divine language and fallen human language. To purify language, they rejected not only oaths, but even polite greetings like “good morrow.” George Fox, the founder of Quakerism, argued that if you wished someone a “good morrow” and he was actually on an errand of evil, you might unwittingly seem to be condoning that evil, and thus be implicated in it. Quakers also argued that “thou” and “thee” should be preserved as second-person singular pronouns, trying to reverse the widespread adoption of “you.” Fox even coauthored an extraordinary polyglot grammar, amassing examples from 33 languages including Latin, Greek, Polish, Arabic, Hebrew, Syriac, and Coptic to show that there should be separate second-person singular and plural pronouns.

Early Quaker texts sometimes seem strange in their attention to usage details, yet they share with the Puritan texts that drew Gordis to the field a sense that language and reading matter. Gordis is neither Puritan nor Quaker, but she shares that sense. “These texts are compelling,” she suggests, “in part because their authors believed so firmly that the words people say and write have deep spiritual and moral significance. Words mattered to them, and their words matter to me.”

SHOPPING OUR WAY TO SALVATION

Continued from Page 9

footprint on the environment, “by using things until the very end of their utility.” In her work in Papua New Guinea, West saw how companies that use palm-tree oil for an ingredient in their products effectively removed that land from use by the indigenous people for 25 years.

Even an issue like fair trade isn’t as simple as one might think. Fair trade, usually defined as a trading partnership that offers greater equity in international trade by supporting farmers and producers in developing countries, can either help producers or, as sometimes happens with the certification process, be a way for savvy marketers to make their product seem more valuable, assuage consumer guilt, and charge more money for it without necessarily making a significant difference for the actual producers.

For Cycon, whose company uses fair-trade beans as a means to achieve social, economic, and environmental benefits in coffee-producing communities in the Americas, Africa, and Asia, “It’s a system that acknowledges that dispossessed people need help,” he said, and suggested the business model needs to change. “We say that growth isn’t the point of our business, it’s the outcome of business done well,” said Cycon. “You have to make companies more responsible.”

Even more adjustments might be necessary. For Sterling, it’s time to rethink our value system. “You have to keep stepping back. Are we driven by the advertising industry? You need to ask deeper questions. What are you buying for? What is your impact? *Not* consuming can change the world.”

It doesn’t help that there’s so much in the way of inexpensive goods out there. As Hockenberry asked, “Doesn’t the global labor force making little money fuel the disposable culture?” When there’s an abundant supply of cheap goods—the panel pointed out that there are often hidden labor and economic costs to those items—it’s hard to justify spending money to fix them when replacement seems a smarter financial decision.

In a throwaway culture, Goldmark and her husband, Michael Banta, launched an itinerant repair service, Pop Up Repair, in 2013, precisely to address that issue. “As a set designer, I think about stuff all day long,” said Goldmark. “How do we

create meaning from stuff we use to tell stories? At home, I felt we were drowning in things. We’re facing the most dire environmental challenge. When items break, there’s nowhere to go.” She and Banta launched Pop Up Repair as a place where people can bring everything—chairs, lamps, iPhones, small appliances such as toasters and blenders, toys, and stuffed animals—and have them fixed. Also being used as a research project, the service opens in various neighborhoods for a limited amount of time.

Still, Goldmark said, “The price of new goods is less than the cost of repairing them.” On a personal level, she is “struggling to...buy less. I think about what I buy, and will spend a little more money to go somewhere I believe in.”

Conscious consuming may, in fact, be a solution to saving the planet. “One of the things that makes me hopeful is that students are thinking very carefully about these [questions], like the labor cost of goods,” said West.

According to Cycon, there is no way around consumption. We are all—and will remain—consumers. The key is to buy consciously. “Consumption has to save the planet because all we do is consume,” said Cycon. “Everybody should go home and think of one or two things to research—like fair trade, or sustainability. People need information to make good choices.”

RIGHTS AND RESILIENCE

Continued from page 13

Spectra said, noting that these venues are making LGBT people more visible. “I’d like to see more of that recognized and affirmed, especially by older feminists.”

“It’s a two-way learning street,” said Gbowee. “If you people make us understand how important this is in your space, we will be able to be advocates for some of these things.”

“This is not competition,” she continued, “it’s cooperation. We’re all fighting to get to the same place.”

Even with all the serious subject matter covered, there was never a shortage of humor.

“Remember the saying, ‘I don’t want to be part of the revolution if I can’t dance,’” said Adeleye-Fayemi of the African Women’s Leadership Institute.

SYLLABUS: INQUIRIES INTO ISLAM

Continued from Page 14

Haider focuses on the central elements held in common by Muslims from a variety of cultural and geographical backgrounds. “We examine the life of Muhammad, the Quran, and the development of important intellectual traditions such as jurisprudence and Sufism,” he says. Other topics include attempts at societal and religious reform, and political reinterpretations of Islamic laws to accommodate scientific and technological innovations. He also examines the ways communities use such popular cultural trends as hip-hop to create distinct spheres of identity.

The requirements are stringent, and up to a third of the students are scared away after the first day, says Haider. Participation accounts for 15 percent of the grade so everyone must keep up with the reading, since anyone can be randomly called upon to answer questions. “I use the Socratic method, so students must be well prepared for every class and cannot just ‘mail it in,’” he says. “This class requires a major time commitment.”

Haider assigns his students to create blogs where they post weekly responses and comment on news events; their blogs also link to an overall class blog. The first week he asks everyone to participate in a general exercise in which they imagine they are hearing voices that they believe to be truthful but no one else can hear what is being said. “The goal is to get them to empathize with the religious experience,” Haider says.

Throughout the course, students post response papers on their blogs concerning the week’s readings. They also must post one of three other items each week: an analysis of an article relating to Islam, a reflection on media coverage or current events, or a discussion about something that has not been covered in detail during class. They also have to read and comment on at least two of their classmates’ blogs.

Haider devotes several classes to Shiism, looking at the topic as inclusively and broadly as possible. “I don’t treat Sunni and Shia Islam as different religious traditions. I see them as two interpretations of the same sources.”

Students who take the course can expect to read and listen to speeches by Osama bin Laden and study suicide

bombings. “Some of the discussions are heated, but Barnard students take both positions and the dialogue usually goes back and forth,” says Haider.

For the final project, students are asked to pretend they are interning for a senator from a fictional state and are invited to a dinner at his or her home. They find themselves sitting next to Samuel P. Huntington, known for the 1993 article, “The Clash of Civilizations,” which posited that differences between cultures and religious identities would be the primary source of conflict in the post-Cold War era.

In this imaginary scenario, Huntington explains his views pertaining to Islam and the Middle East and the students are charged with writing an assessment agreeing with or opposing Huntington, as well as taking on the beliefs of Bernard Lewis, who first used the words in Huntington’s title in an earlier article called “The Roots of Muslim Rage.”

The class is open to both Barnard and Columbia students, but draws more people from Barnard, where it satisfies a core requirement. Generally there is a 70/30 split between females and males, with many first years and sophomores making up the group and a number of different majors represented. “Some of my best students have been science majors,” Haider notes. Last spring there were about 25 students. “I am still a new professor, so I find I have more people each time I teach it.” The subject matter does attract some religion majors, like Allee Karmazyn ’14, who was part of last spring’s class.

“His class was especially great because it provided an overview of a really complicated topic,” she says. “The blog posts were a really good way of incorporating what we learned in class and really required you to do the reading in depth. I appreciated this because it allowed me to get a lot out of the class.”

Karmazyn is considering getting a PhD in religion or going to law school. She plans to move to D.C. after graduation to work in public policy, which she hopes will help her to home in on her career path. “The class definitely gave me a greater awareness of different denominations within the religion of Islam and across Muslim communities and cultures,” she says. “I feel like I have a deeper understanding of these topics on a broader scale, and a more critical view of Western influence in the Muslim world.”

Applied physics major Haris Durrani (SEAS ’15) was also part of last spring’s session. Durrani minors in Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African studies. “It is one of the best classes I’ve taken,” he says. “A lot of classes provoke you to think about the subject matter of religion, politics, or history, but this one gives you the concrete tools by which to do so.” Durrani, who is Sunni, was also surprised to learn things he didn’t know about his own religion, including the nuances in the beliefs of liberals and jihadists.

Both schools of thought deny classical Muslim thinking, he says. “Jihadists say you must go back to the Prophet Muhammad and the Quran, while ‘liberal’ or ‘progressive’ thinkers also return to core texts, although in an attempt to draw out ‘ethical arcs’ rather than for a literal reading. Both bypass centuries of intellectual, spiritual, and legal development and thereby both rely on the assumption that vast amounts of classical scholarship can be easily cast aside.”

Another topic caught his attention—hip-hop and its relationship with the diversity and history of African American Muslims. “This is an essential, though sometimes tragically forgotten, part of any conversation on Islam or Muslims in America.”

Durrani says the focus on the movements of Islam did generate some lively conversation that was especially engaging because “everyone had to be acutely prepared for class, more so than any other course I’ve participated in.”

Islam in the Post-Colonial World will be offered again in the fall of 2014.

SALON: SARAH DOOLEY

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line following, and her work as a member of Columbia’s Fruit Paunch improv-comedy team, she became something of a celebrity on campus. “It felt good to be recognized,” she says. “For someone coming from a little town in Indiana, it certainly gave me more confidence.”

Dooley says Barnard was creatively stimulating in a significant way. “I felt supported, encouraged, and constantly inspired by the classes, my classmates, and the environment of passionate women following their dreams,” she says. “[The College] was really important in my

development as an artist.” From her current manager to her partner on the web series to the student who produced *Stupid Things* as his senior thesis, members of the Barnard and Columbia communities have played an integral role in that development. “I met the most important people in my life at school. It was just brimming with talented people generous enough to help me out.”

Those collaborators have equal praise for Dooley. “Sarah is so funny and talented—I hardly had to direct her [in the web series], I just let her do her thing,” says *And Sarah...* cocreator Rachel Mersky ’11. “She has such a great spirit, which to this day makes her one of my favorite people to work with.”

As for what’s next, Dooley says she’d like to tour with her album. “That seems like it would be fun. I’m writing screenplays, too—I’m trying to do it all,” she says. “I feel like I’m not good enough at any one thing to focus on it fully. I’m putting my eggs in all the baskets.”

SALON: JANE ALLEN PETRICK

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Grimes appears in the lower left corner, her hands clasped in prayer. Her older brother Paul is depicted as an African boy with gold hoop earrings.

Petrick says she was pleased to discover that Rockwell, who died in 1978, was far more inclusive than his reputation as an artist of white 1950s suburban America suggests. “I never expected that a visit to the Berkshires would result in my writing about Norman Rockwell,” says Petrick, who studied economics at Barnard. She has a doctorate in organizational psychology, and worked as a corporate director for Knight-Ridder (since acquired by The McClatchy Co.) and a senior director of human resources for AT&T Wireless. Passionate about cultural and historic preservation, she enjoys leading tours and is a certified and licensed tour guide.

Ultimately Rockwell gripped her attention and would not let go. “Amidst all the voices that broke free as I was researching this story, amidst all the voices that wanted to tell their stories for the first time, the loudest voice of all was that of Norman Rockwell,” she says.

Despite the artist’s penchant for

sentimentality and even kitsch, Petrick discovered that he didn't shy away from racial controversy. In *The Problem We All Live With*—the work that initially caught Petrick's eye—he captured the commingled fear and courage of the little girl tasked with integrating an all-white school. Rockwell also regularly depicted minorities as workers, citizens, and bystanders, all part of America's rich, diverse fabric.

Delving into her subject, she was grateful for the encouragement she received from Laura Claridge, author of a 2001 biography of Rockwell. "The more she talked to me about what she was going to do, the more excited I got," Claridge says. "I told her I thought it was magnificent. How could it not be?" She says that neither she nor any of Rockwell's other biographers had explored the ethnicity of his models. "It was shameful to me because I don't consider myself an unenlightened person," she says. She praised *Hidden in Plain Sight* as "excellent" and "a necessary supplement if you're really serious about looking at Rockwell."

Petrick, who lives in Woodstock, N.Y., and Coral Gables, Fla., says she put her Barnard training to use as she investigated. "That's what you get for having a great liberal arts education like you get at Barnard!" she says with a warm laugh. "You know how to do research, and once you get curious about something, you can't let it go. You have to keep going."

Petrick launched a Kickstarter campaign to raise \$3,500 for copyediting, formatting, and indexing. She topped that goal with donations totaling \$4,450 from 75 people. The self-published book was released last year in digital and print formats. It's printed on demand and available as a download. Petrick has begun working on a hardcover second edition with a tentative release date of 2016. She's securing permissions to reproduce pictures that contain minority models so readers can see not only Rockwell's iconic art but also the diverse faces he immortalized.

AFRICANA STUDIES

Continued from Page 26

she did in first-year English. Prettyman's rigor commands respect and, begrudgingly, admiration. (The women are still very close friends today.) Seeing the classroom as a kind of ministry, she converts her students into hard workers, excellent writers, and perspicacious readers. Prettyman explains, "Once, a student came in to complain about a B-. I told her that she earned it—the paper was not her best work. 'I'll give you an A when you hand in your best work,' I said. She never handed junk in again." At age 70, which is when St. Jean had her as a professor, or now, at age 80, Prettyman's appearance masks the tiger that she is—diminutive, with her snow-white hair often secured with a hair band and in a ponytail, clad in a denim dress and sensible shoes, she appears a nice older woman, even when she deploys that devilish smile. In reality, she is a drill sergeant, unwilling to brook student laziness, with a multigenerational reputation for encouraging students to do multiple rewrites until they actually get to their best work.

SURVIVAL & SOLIDARITY

As one of the first black faculty members who also taught African American literature, Quandra Prettyman was often responsible for representing blackness at Barnard, especially in the 1970s before there was any program or department in Africana studies. "There was a time when I introduced every black person that came to speak at Barnard, which was interesting," she remembered. Indicating that this work was actually a "nice Barnard moment," Prettyman beamed when recounting the luminaries she met: "Maya Angelou a couple of times, Toni Cade [Bambara], Sonia Sanchez." She missed having Ntozake Shange and Thulani Davis, both '70, in her classes by just one semester. When she herself was asked to speak at a Black History Month event in Brooks Hall, rather than merely introduce a black speaker, she was reminded—by the notes for the talk recently found in her files—that her topic was love letters sent by slaves to one another.

This discovery is of a piece with Prettyman's pedagogical practice; as a teacher and scholar of African American literature, she emphasizes solidarity. When asked which of the classes in her reper-

toire were her favorites, she mentioned a course titled *Women and Slavery in Black and White*. Using an example from Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, she mused, "Everyone thinks of me as a descendent of Sethe [the slave mother in the story]. What I wanted in that class was for white students to understand themselves as descendants of Denver [Amy Denver, the white woman who helps the slave Sethe survive childbirth during her escape from slavery]." Not a person who overly emphasizes racial *difference*, Prettyman is interested in exploring the conditions for mutual survival and prosperity.

Though she grew up in segregated Baltimore, her world was always diverse and cosmopolitan—she traveled to Mexico with an integrated high school group, was in Paris with James Baldwin, and has spent many summers of her adult life in Amsterdam or other parts of Europe. This desire does not blind her to the realities of race and power, as she explained when recounting another, not so nice, Barnard moment. Saying that "there was a time when I stopped going to parental events, so as to not give a false sign of black presence," she indicated that the work that she would do for Barnard, in the broad category of "solidarity," would be on her own terms. The point-person for black people, culture, and scholarship at Barnard for many years, Prettyman is overjoyed that the Africana studies program has recently become a full department. "What pleases me so much is the variety of experiences, the many different perspectives students are getting now," she says. Forty-plus years after her initial job interview, there are six tenured black women teaching in the department and "you are all so different!" she insists. Because of her long, passionate, dedicated service to black folk and black studies, Barnard has become not only "safe" for the study of Africans in and of the diaspora, but vibrantly and energetically so.

LAST IMAGE: CALL FOR ENTRIES

Do you have an amazing photograph or work of art that you would like to share with fellow alumnae? Please send submissions to David Hopson at dhopson@barnard.edu.



Truth in Fiction



Did this really happen to you? It's a question many fiction writers get asked, in bookstore readings and at parties. I'm bracing for a fresh wave of it, with a new novel on the way about a damaged, talented girl named Rainey Royal and her troubled friends. *Why do you know about strip clubs?* I expect to get asked. *Did you bully other chicks?* *Did your father sleep with his students—if you don't mind my asking?* *Did your mother leave home?*

I don't mind your asking. (And he didn't, and she didn't.) But I wasn't prepared in 2009, when my first story collection, *Normal People Don't Live Like This*, came out, for my parents to sit me down in their red-walled living room in Larchmont, N.Y., and soberly ask if we could talk about "Jazz."

"Jazz" is the first story in that book. Rainey is 13 then, a girl lying under her father's best friend in Central Park. It's dusk, and throughout the story, Richard has her pinned to the grass. She's flirted with him before. But now Richard is peeling up her top, working at her jeans. A therapist would say Rainey dissociates.

My parents, married half a century, studied me hard. My father asked, "Did one of our friends ever do this to you?" I was so startled, and felt so violated, I barked out a laugh.

Not long afterward, a thin-faced girl with long hair, a graduate student at California State University at Long Beach, tentatively raised her hand in the auditorium. "Did you draw from experience to write 'Jazz'?"

At the podium I panicked. *Yes*, I thought. *No*.

Did this happen to me?

But I admired her for asking. Because I understood, watching my parents, that it wasn't easy to ask. They asked as parents. *This girl's a writing student*, I told myself. She's asking about writing, consciously or not. She needs to know: Must a writer sink through darkness in order to make art of it? Conversely, if one has fallen through darkness, can one still make the art?

I decided that telling this young woman the mere truth would do an injustice to several souls. One was my son, who was then barely out of high school. One was me: I felt entitled to some privacy. And one was the student herself: she would grasp the story no better if she knew that, in fact, I had been molested repeatedly as a teenager, though not (as I truthfully swore in that red living room) by anyone my parents knew.

And certainly not by anyone like Richard—a talented jazz musician obsessed with both his victim and her father.

I could have lied to that student so easily. Could have said glibly, "There's a reason I called it fiction, not memoir." Instead I dragged my mind out of the dust motes in the stockroom where my molester used to take me, back down the spiral staircase he had me climb. And I stepped into the safe, bright fluorescent light of an Episcopal convent in Manhattan, where Madeleine L'Engle, the late novelist, once taught fiction in the fourth-floor conference room. It was the workshop where I first began writing fiction at the age of 40, after years of being a journalist.

I repeated what Madeleine told her students: that nonfiction is about what is true, but fiction is about truth.

In the Long Beach auditorium, I asked: "Can anyone here say that their physical or emotional boundaries have never been violated?" No one volunteered a hand.

We may start with a fragment of what we know—of what is true—but then we run with it, I said. We spin it out. If transformation occurs, if art achieves liftoff, what's revealed is human experience: not just the author's own. At those times, fiction can feel, and be, so full of truth that some readers feel driven to ask: *Did this really happen to you?*

Dylan Landis '78 is the author of the novel *Rainey Royal*, due out in September, and *Normal People Don't Live Like This*, a collection of linked stories.



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